



C & D

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Price Maintenance

P.A.T.A. REPORT LOOKS AHEAD

THE final hearing by the Restrictive Practices Court of the case for medicinal products is unlikely to take place before January 1969, says the seventy-second annual report of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association. Both medicinal specialities and over-the-counter medicinals appear under the same reference to the Court. Under the direction of counsel, much preliminary work has been done in obtaining information required for the statement of case, and the P.A.T.A. is working in close liaison with the National Pharmaceutical Union and the Proprietary Association of Great Britain. The report says that an appeal will be made to members this year for money to finance the hearing. It is anticipated that five price maintenance cases will be heard during the year and they are expected to provide useful information. Work in assisting members to maintain prices was less heavy than in previous years. Only one injunction proceedings was instituted (successfully) but 1,063 calls were made on price-cutting traders. The council reminds members of the importance of being able to prove to the Court that they have actively pursued a policy of resale price maintenance in respect of their own products. Total income in 1967 was £14,986 (£1,097 less than in 1966), but it exceeded expenditure (reduced by £1,364) by £1,345. President during 1968 is Mr. P. D. Elliman (Elliman Sons & Co., Ltd.).

N.H.S. Accounts

SCOTTISH PHARMACEUTICAL COSTS

PHARMACISTS in Scotland in 1966-67 received gross payments from Executive Councils amounting to £15,412,779, according to the N.H.S. Summarised Accounts, Scotland 1966-67 (H.M. Stationery office, price 4s. 3d.), compared with £14,043,968 in the previous year. An approximation analysis of the total reveals that the cost of ingredients and appliances was £10,625,000; oncost allowance £1,918,000; dispensing fees £2,645,000; container allowance £217,000 and rota payments £8,000. £78,978 of the gross figure was due to pharmacists for dispensing hospital outpatient prescriptions. The total number of prescriptions excluding stock orders was 27,341,550 (26,374,122 in 1965-66) and the average gross cost



IN THE SALE ROOMS: At a recent sale at Sothebys of continental porcelain a rare Capodimonte alchemists' group fetched £800. Modelled upon one of an Amsterdam series of caricatures published in 1716, it was entitled "Mr. Smoke-blower, Archvotary of the barren Art of Alchemy — Possessor of the Quintessence of Fools." The group, 7½ in. high, shows a bearded, leather-aproned alchemist, pouring a liquid into a small crucible standing over a log fire. His workman, loaded with a pannier of faggots, carries a retort. The disintegrating cover to the brick furnace, on which stands a cucurbit and a receiver, seems sadly in need of repair. Only two other examples of the group are recorded.

[Photograph by courtesy of Sotheby & Co.]

for prescriptions 133·47d., 4·14d. more than the corresponding figure for 1965-66. Medical and dental practitioners received £325,803 for supplying drugs and appliances, £18,487 was spent on drugs and appliances provided at the health centre and £2,860 on salaries and superannuation. Pharmacies of Hospital Boards cost £4,800,000 to run at 6·7 per cent. of the total hospital running expenses.

Society's Reception

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS WELCOMED

AT a reception in London on June 10 the president of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. Allen Aldington) welcomed representatives of other professional bodies, local authorities and Ministries. Among them were the Attorney General (Sir Elwyn Jones, Q.C., M.P.), the mayor and town clerk of the borough of Camden, the secretaries of the British Dental and British Medical Associations, the president and secretary of the British Veterinary Association; the chairman of the Central Midwives Board; the president and secretary of the Chemical

Society; the president of the General Dental Council; the registrar of the General Optical Council; the Government Chemist; Mr. Ivor Richard, M.P.; the president of the Royal Institute of Chemistry; the senior warden of the Society of Apothecaries; the president of the Society of Chemical Industry; and the chairman of the Statutory Committee.

Safety Razors and Blades

SALES IN FIRST QUARTER

SALES value of complete sets of safety razors for the first quarter of 1968 at £310,000 was 5 per cent. lower than in the corresponding quarter of 1967: sales for export were down by 7 per cent., according to the Board of Trade *Business Monitor*. Sales of stainless steel safety razor blades in the first quarter of 1968 were 37 per cent. higher than in 1967 and export sales 38 per cent. higher. For other safety razor blades the value was 39 per cent. higher than a year ago and export sales were 53 per cent. higher. Production of stainless steel blades numbered 347,174 (314,152 in the 1967 quarter) and of other safety blades 238,239 (234,248).

Sickness Absence

CONTRIBUTION OF MINOR ILLNESS

COST of sickness benefit payments in Great Britain reached a record figure of £248 million in 1965-66, according to an Office of Health Economics information sheet (no. 4). In 1966, there were 9·5 million spells of sickness absence with a total loss of 311 million days exceeding the figures for 1958, the year of the last major influenza epidemic. Largest single cause of absence was bronchitis, which cost almost £26 m. in sickness payments in 1964-65. Respiratory diseases accounted for about £50 m. However, the recent increase in sickness absence is said to be due largely to increases in relatively minor causes, such as nervousness, debility, headache, sprains and strains. O.H.E. predicts that the rising trends in sickness absence will continue — "a reflection of people wanting to take better care of themselves and being able to do so." Relatively minor ill-health is now no longer ignored or accepted. Commenting, Mr. G. Teeling-Smith (O.H.E. director) said that the cost to the country of lost production might be five times the cost of social security payments.

Treatment of Addicts

DOCTORS' MOTION SEEKS COMPULSION
TEMPORARY legislation authorising compulsory admission of drug addicts to institutions is called for in a motion to be discussed at the British Medical Association's annual representative meeting, Eastbourne, June 24-28. The legislation would be aimed at providing proper supervision of dosage, rehabilitation and removal of the "infective element" from the community until the "epidemic" had waned. Newcastle upon Tyne division urges work to stop "the dangerous sequence of events foreseen from the widening range of drug-resistant bacteria caused by the increasing and extensive use (and at times misuse) of readily available antibiotics, often with no prescription, by farmers for veterinary purposes." Tyneside division suggests that, apart from drugs of "indisputable therapeutic importance," all should be paid for in full. Birmingham and St. Marylebone divisions urge continuance of brand-name prescribing on Form EC10.

Infections from Food

"MORE CASES THAN REALISED" CLAIM
FIGURES projected from an investigation carried out recently for Jeyes Group, Ltd., indicate that over 8 million people suffered stomach disorders during the month before the survey. The annual report of the chief medical officer, Ministry of Health, had stated that food poisoning cases in 1966 numbered only 6,581, but the Ministry figures, compiled from annual reports of medical officers of health, were based, it was pointed out, on returns from doctors on whom a restricted definition of food poisoning had been imposed. The Group's managing director (Mr. R. Auchinloss) urged continuous research and an educational programme using leaflets, the Press and television. The Ministry of Health should agree a policy of testing and use, and research must introduce new products.

Chemists' Retail Sales

BOARD OF TRADE STATISTICS

THE index of retail sales by chemists and photographic goods dealers in April was 96 (average monthly sales in 1966=100), an increase of 8 per cent. over the same period a year earlier. Figures recently issued by the Board of Trade also reveal the following indices for the month:—

Independent retailers	95 (+ 7 per cent.)
Multiple retailers	98 (+ 11 per cent.)
Co-operative societies	91 (+ 1 per cent.)

The figures do not allow for receipts under the National Health Service.

Oral Contraceptives

WORLD EXPERTS' REPORT

THE risk of thromboembolic accidents among users of oral contraceptives appears to be small in comparison with the over-all risk incurred by pregnancy, says a report "Hormonal Steroids in Contraception" by a World Health Organisation scientific group (technical report series no. 386, H.M. Stationery Office, price 4s.). There are, it states,

divergent reports concerning changes in blood clotting factors but the measurable factors do not seem to be indicators of clinically detectable hypercoagulability and the changes do not seem to be related to thromboembolic accidents in patients taking oral contraceptives. Nineteen areas needing further research are listed, the first being development of new formulations and regimens that are safer, more specific in action, better tolerated and more acceptable.

Stimulant Drugs

W.H.O. URGES CONTROL OF ABUSE

PROMPT measures to curb the growing abuse of drugs, especially of the amphetamine, central-stimulant group, have been recommended by the 21st World Health Assembly after it had heard details of the serious situation in Sweden. The assembly's resolution expressed deep concern at the "continuing and spreading problem posed by the abuse of psychotropic substances not under international control" and urged member states to adopt firm national control pending the adoption of international measures. The Assembly also resolved that every family should have the opportunity of obtaining information on problems connected with family planning including fertility and sterility.

Diverted from France

"IDEAL TIMING" FOR TRADE MISSION

AFTER an "unqualified success" of a trade display of Australian products in London in May, the Australian Trade Mission to Southern Europe counts it as "ideal timing" that it was diverted to London owing to industrial troubles in France. Led by Mr. P. C. Murray (managing director, Pioneer Industries Pty. Ltd., Sydney) the Mission includes members representing many industries, including Mr. M. Goodman, Ph.C., (managing director, Cambridge Laboratories Pty., Ltd., Melbourne), who is seeking agents in Britain for a number of "patent" medicines.

Sales Staff Training

ILLUSTRATED GUIDE FOR RETAILERS

THE Economic Development Committee for the Distributive Trades has published "Grow Your Own Sales Staff—21 Golden Rules," an illustrated guide to the recruitment selection and training of sales staff in small shops. The ideas put forward in the booklet are intended to be equally applicable to the independent retailer and to the multiple company with many small branches. It is the second in the Committee's "Talking Shop" series and the style follows its predecessor "Gold—in Your Hands." The booklet is obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, price 10s.

Finance for Research

B.M.A. PUBLISHES A GUIDE

A GUIDE for doctors engaged on research, giving information about possible sources of finance, has been published (price 3s. 6d.) by the British

Medical Association's planning unit, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

Medical Economics

NEW RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A NEW national body to undertake research on the economics of medical care has been formed by a group of doctors, businessmen, lawyers, economists and parliamentarians. Known as the Medical Economic Research Institute it has as chief patron Sir Arthur Porritt (Governor of New Zealand). Dr. Wyndham Davies (director) says that the first projects will be studies on effects of the changing age structure of the population; effective and economical use of medical manpower; maintenance of adequate and independent services of the family doctor and provision and finance of suitable buildings and facilities for medical care.

IRISH NEWS

THE REPUBLIC

"Soft" Drugs

RESTRICTIONS ON POSSESSION

LEGISLATION to deal with unauthorised possession of "soft" drugs (amphetamines, barbiturates, tranquillisers and LSD) is under way, the Minister for Health (Mr. Flanagan) announced in Dublin on June 7. The announcement follows a recent lecture by Dr. W. E. Boles (a member of Council, Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland) who urged imposition of controls over LSD at each level from manufacture to the ultimate user. The Minister said that regulations were being prepared under the Poisons Act, 1961, to control the sale and distribution of a wide range of medical preparations and to extend the scope of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1943, to include synthetic narcotic drugs, including Palfium, Diconal and other drugs referred to in Dr. Boles' lecture.

IRISH BREVITIES

THE REPUBLIC

FROM August, the Irish Drug Association's index and price list is being published every two months (instead of annually).

THE following pharmacies have ceased to operate and are being auctioned:— Floods, Terenure, Dublin; Clearys' Medical Hall, Hospital, co. Limerick; the pharmacy of Mr. R. McLoughlin, 131 Oliver Plunket Road, Monkstown, co. Dublin. Closing down are: Seafeld Pharmacy, Booterstown, co. Dublin; O'Donnell's Pharmacy, Cahir, co. Tipperary. Mr. S. O'Dwyer, has opened a pharmacy at 34 Main Street, Cashel, co. Tipperary.

THE NORTH

THE annual golf outing of the Guild of St. Albert and St. Gemma takes place at Dungannon golf club at 2 p.m. on June 23. Play is for the Brookborough cup and other prizes donated by Hyde & Entwhistle, Ltd. Intending participants should inform Mr. M. Mooney (telephone: Belfast 744877 (shop), 643561 (home)).

NEWS IN BRIEF

BECAUSE of a shortage of pharmacists, the out-patients' dispensary at Leicester Royal Infirmary has been closed.

THE text of the Medicines Bill as amended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee D has been published (H.M. Stationery Office, price 10s. 6d.).

SOUVENIR sets of five of Britain's new decimal coins are now on sale at banks and main Post Offices. The bronze ("copper") coins will not be legal tender until February 1971 (they bear the date 1971).

A NEW method of taking the import account of wines and spirits, based on the acceptance of the declaration of the full capacities of casks and bulk containers, has been introduced by H.M. Commissioners of Customs and Excise (notice No. 18).

THE Swedish Government has decided to nationalise all chemists' shops, says a report in the *Guardian* (June 12). Reason given is that medicines have become too numerous and too expensive. The State will use its position to depress prices and to limit the number of drugs on sale.

IN the series on preventive and social aspects of medicine, prepared by the Standing Medical Advisory Committee of the Central Health Services Council, the Ministry of Health has published a memorandum on "Communicable diseases contracted outside Great Britain." Copies have been distributed to doctors in the National Health Service.

A WARNING that certain liquid formulations of malathion packed in tin containers may on storage give rise to tainting in treated fruits or vegetables. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food strongly recommends that growers should not in any circumstances use on fruit or vegetables any formulation of Malathion which has been stored in containers for more than two years or which has been left in opened containers for any length of time.

LOCAL OFFICERS

PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEES

Middlesex. — Chairman, W. J. F. Laxton; Vice-chairman, J. K. Westerman; Treasurer, R. H. Rowson; Secretary, J. Anderson Stewart, 6 Southampton Place, London, W.C.1. *Pharmaceutical Service Committee*:— W. J. F. Laxton, R. H. Rowson, J. K. Westerman, T. J. Mapstone, H. G. Moss and S. J. Turner.

SPORT

GOLF

MANCHESTER PHARMACEUTICAL GOLFING SOCIETY. — Winners of the Kerfoot Trophy, played for at Worsley Golf Club on June 5, were:— 1, S. Tobias; 2, T. Moffatt.

IRISH CHEMISTS' GOLFING SOCIETY.—Forty golfers battled for prizes presented by Evans Medical (Ireland), Ltd., at Woodbrook on June 6. *Results*:— *Class A*, A. B. Hensley (12) 40; P. Coghlan (14) 38. *Class B*, J. Kennedy (16) 39; J. H. Foley (17) 36; *First nine*, G. Golden. *Second nine*, A. Walsh. Prizes were presented at supper by Mr. C. Staunton (managing director of prize donors). The next outing is with Ulster Chemists' Golfing Association to Dundalk on June 26.

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser

June 10

By the time these words appear we shall have endured almost a week of public reaction to the reimposed prescription charges. The Minister of Health has admitted that there has been difficulty in defining the categories of chronic sick, which were narrower than he would have wished. To widen them, he said, was quite unacceptable to the medical profession "for various reasons." One might have thought that the over-riding consideration would have been humanitarian, and it seems that, if that were the case, a less narrow list could have been devised. As it is, the public have not, despite advertising on the part of the Ministry, fully realised the extremely limited range of conditions covered, for the initial announcement of the exemptions gave no such indication—and it is, I find, the impression created by the original statement that has remained. I see people daily who are in no need of a skilled diagnostician to support their claim to be regarded as chronic sick. That many of them will eventually be able to assert their right to reimbursement is true, but it will first be necessary to establish that concession through the distasteful machinery of submitting to a means test. That, one feels, could have been avoided. But the system, if one may call it so, is now with us, and pharmacists, I feel sure, will do all they can to help those who find themselves intimidated by the obscure instructions on the back of the new prescription form, with its threat of possible legal proceedings. That is going to take time and patience, and it cannot do other than slow the rate of production. The compensation offered (and accepted) for the additional work is ludicrous. It should have been as unacceptable to our negotiators as the widening of the categories of chronic sick has been to the doctors. But when all is said I remain firmly of the opinion I have expressed over the years, in this column and elsewhere, that it is a charge that does not fall on those who are well and have no need to consult their physician. It is wrong.

The Case and the Council

The influence of the long drawn out saga of *Dickson v. The Pharmaceutical Society* is difficult to assess in relation to the attitude of the members as a whole. There was, in the beginning, strong support for the resolution now dismissed by the Lords, which gave way as time went on to certain doubts arising because of the legal costs, and there were candidates for the Council election at that time who deplored the spending of money on appeals to higher authority. But in the recent election, knowing that the die was cast and that the Council was collectively responsible for the final appeal to the Lords, the electorate did not show obvious signs of disapproval, for five of the retiring candidates were returned out of seven. Though not a live issue in May of this year (none of those who tried to make it so was elected) it was known that the case had gone to the Lords; that losing the appeal would add to the costs already incurred, and that the Lords decision was imminent. Complete disapproval of the Council's action could have resulted in the rejection of all seven retiring Councillors, yet only two were rejected of the seven who were members of the Council that decided to carry the case to the ultimate. That seems to argue that the membership in general had not changed its mind since the meeting in the Royal Albert Hall. No one will ever know what effect the Lords decision, had it come at the end of April, might have had on the election, but on the facts as stated I should think very little. The result does not affect the desire of the members to improve status in the profession.

Preservatives

The course at Chelsea College should provide useful information on the use of preservatives in pharmaceuticals. I had occasion to use solution of benzoic acid recently as an ingredient in a mixture in the British National Formulary, and was shocked to discover that it had been sent out by a large firm of repute in a bottle closed with a metallic screw cap. Strenuous effort was required to remove the cap, and its condition was far from what it should have been.

CENTRAL N.H.S. COMMITTEE

Prescription charges notice approved; a further move on "N.P."

BY a unanimous vote Mr. G. T. M. David was re-elected *Chairman* of the Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee at its meeting in London on May 28. Mr. John Reed was elected *Vice-chairman*.

In a report of the proceedings of that meeting, given to the N.P.U. Executive Committee on the following morning, Mr. DAVID said that 116 of the 121 Pharmaceutical Committees that had replied to the Central Committee's letter detailing the Minister's offer had indicated acceptance of its terms, and a formal letter of acceptance had been sent to the Ministry. From the nature of some of the comments made by contractors, it seemed not to have been generally appreciated that the payment of one penny per prescription represented an actual payment of approximately twopence per non-exempt prescription (on the basis that the one penny payment was applicable to all prescriptions, whereas it had been estimated that 50 per cent. of prescriptions would not attract the 2s. 6d. charge). It had been re-emphasised at the meeting that the pharmacist had no responsibility for checking the authority of any person signing prescription forms, "whether it be a patient in his twenties claiming to be over sixty-five or a woman of sixty professing pregnancy."

On the question of accepting signatures from children, the Central N.H.S. Committee again stated the position that prescriptions should be dispensed without charge if the chemist contractor was satisfied that the declaration had been completed and signed and that the address had been given. The contractor would not be required to check the accuracy of the information, and it would not be his responsibility if prescriptions bearing unauthorised signatures were presented. Handing out medicine to children was an entirely separate matter, on which pharmacists would exercise their usual degree of caution and discretion.

Reference had been made at the meeting to errors in the appendix to the ECN 663 listing examples of prescriptions and the appropriate charges. Executive Councils had been asked to send out a covering letter with the ECN drawing attention to the inaccuracies in the appendix and confirming that an amended version would be distributed as soon as possible. A notice with the following advice had been approved by the Committee for issue to contractors.

N.H.S. PRESCRIPTION CHARGES

PRESCRIPTION charges are collected for the Government and are not related to the cost of the medicine supplied. They should be paid when the prescription is presented for dispensing.

Unless you are in the exempted classes, the chemist is under no obligation to dispense your prescription unless the charge is paid. If you wish to claim a refund of the charges you must ask for a receipt form when you pay.

Mr. David reported that the surveys by pharmacies taking part in the inquiry into the cost of providing containers

for N.H.S. prescriptions had taken place during the week commencing May 13, and that information collected was being collated.

The Committee's representations about forged prescriptions had drawn a reply that the Ministry were fully conscious of the need to do everything possible to prevent the misuse of EC10 forms. Notices issued to doctors in 1964 had given them advice on the matter, and in 1967 the subject had again been under active consideration, culminating in an article in the December 1967 issue of *Prescribers' Journal* reminding doctors of the measures they could take to prevent thefts and forgery. Several members of the Committee had raised the difficulty of referring back to the numerous letters received from Executive Councils on the subject of lost prescription pads. Possibly even some of those letters, because the envelopes were marked "confidential," were not being seen by managers in the absence of proprietors. The Committee had agreed to make to the Ministry suggestions for overcoming both those problems.

Dispensing in Rural Areas

The Committee had discussed the re-drafted proposed new Regulation 27 of the General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services Regulations. During discussion on the proposed inclusion of two lay members on dispensing committees, THE SECRETARY (Mr. J. Wright) had given a reminder that Local Pharmaceutical Committees in rural areas would have to be consulted again before it could be agreed with the Ministry of Health. It had been resolved to arrange a meeting with the Ministry by representatives of the Committee and of the Pharmaceutical Society's Council, after replies from the Committees had been received.

After discussion on a further letter from the Welsh Board of Health, about dispensing in Denbighshire and Flintshire, the Committee had resolved to consult the Committee's solicitors with a view to taking legal action along the lines of the proceedings it had instituted in a similar situation in 1962.

Name Labelling of Containers

The Committee noted from a report on a meeting between representatives of the British Medical Association and the Society's Council on May 15 that the secretary (Mr. J. Wright) had sent to Dr. Hedgecock (secretary of the Association's General Medical Services Committee) on May 24 a letter in the following terms:—

THE Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee and the majority of Local Pharmaceutical Committees in England and Wales do not consider that the container of a dispensed medicine should automatically be labelled with the "proper" name of the article dispensed except where the prescriber has indicated in some manner that he wishes that to be done.

We consider that the prescriber must be afforded a choice by some suitable form of lettering or wording on the prescription form and that he must exercise that choice if he wishes the "proper" name to be included

on the dispensing label. The prescriber can do this quite simply and in a fraction of a second by striking out the appropriate wording or lettering. Where he does not take the trouble to carry out this simple action, it will be assumed by the pharmacist that he does not wish the "proper" name to be included. Since we met, the suggestion has been put forward that, in the place of the wording set out in my letter to you of January 11, ("label/do not label with the name of the preparation"), the letters "N.P.N." should be included on the prescription form instead and that the prescriber who wishes the "proper" name to appear on the dispensing label should strike out either of the 'N's.' This will be interpreted by the pharmacist as an instruction reading "nomen proprium" or "proper name." The advantage of it to the prescriber and the pharmacist is that it will reduce to a minimum the possibility of some patients asking the prescriber or the pharmacist why the "proper" name is not to be included in any instance.

During our meeting last week, reference was made to the instances that will arise in which a prescriber wishes one or more but not all of the items ordered on a prescription form to be labelled with the "proper" name. I expressed the view that this problem could be overcome by numbering the items and indicating appropriately against the "Label/Do not label" instruction the numbers of the items concerned. It seems to me that, if there is a real need for this problem to be dealt with — and we would welcome your Committee's views on the matter — a solution on similar lines could be adopted with the "N.P.N." system. May I make it quite clear that, although the Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee, still has reservations about the labelling of dispensed medicines with "proper" names, we are prepared to recommend pharmacists throughout England and Wales to carry out the instructions of the prescriber where it is clear that the prescriber has consciously exercised a choice. I do hope that your Committee will now agree that what we are proposing is reasonable and that the procedure that we suggest should be adopted."

Drug Testing Scheme

The Committee had considered verbal reports from the secretary and from Mr. D. J. Lewis (secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society) about difficulties the Society's inspectors were having in obtaining sufficient samples of medicines (and more particularly of dressings and appliances) under the drug-testing scheme. After lengthy discussion, during which the implications of shelf sampling were considered and Mr. Lewis had indicated that a further report was expected from the Ministry in three months' time, it was agreed to defer further consideration of the matter until that letter had been received.

During a discussion about the recommendations contained in a recent circular from the Ministry about using metric dispensing bottles, a suggestion had been made that contractors might, to assist local doctors in forming a mental picture of the new metric quantities, send them samples of the new-size bottles.

N.H.S. STATISTICS

IN ENGLAND during 1967, 251,859,443 prescriptions (161,941,676 forms) were dispensed. Total cost was £135,440,124, an average of 134.10d. per prescription.

PRESCRIPTIONS FOR PRICING

N.P.U. Sends a newsletter to contractors

A NEWSLETTER issued from Mallinson House, London, N.14, gives details of the procedures to be followed by contractors in submitting EC10 forms for pricing.

Because of the reintroduction of prescription charges on June 10, it is necessary, when submitting prescriptions for June and subsequent months to sort into doctor order as at present, but in addition to sort the various forms EC10 and EC14 into two (or, for rural contractors who have permission to accept forms having postage stamps, three) groups. The groups are:—

1. All forms bearing prescriptions for exempted classes of patients.
2. All forms bearing prescriptions for which one or more prescription charges are applicable.
3. (Only applicable to designated rural area chemist contractors). All forms bearing prescriptions for which charges have been paid by the affixing of postage stamps.

Within each of these groups the EC10 forms must be sorted out as follows:—

- FORMS EC10:** Sort into a separate batch for each Executive Council in accordance with the name of the Executive Council printed on the form. With each batch place together the forms for each doctor in accordance with the name of the doctor stamped on the form, banding each batch (staples and pins should not be used). The pricing bureaux will also be helped if doctor batches are arranged in alphabetical order within each Executive Council batch. (The Ministry of Health has agreed that, where the total number of forms for any one doctor is twenty or less, the contractor may, if he wishes, submit them in two miscellaneous batches, which should be appropriately placed at the top of the "exempt" and non-exempt" bundles).
- OTHER FORMS:** Sort all other forms into batches of EC10(D), EC10(HP) EC10(S) and EC14 and place them at the bottom of the batches of EC10 in each group.

Form Revisions

A revised form EC34 is being used for submitting June prescriptions onwards. Total number of forms and total of prescriptions in each group, and total of forms and prescriptions submitted, must be declared on that form. Total number of "no charge" prescriptions (i.e., the difference in the number of prescriptions for pricing purposes and the number for charge purposes) should also be declared. Until a space is provided on EC34A, the entry should be written in (for example, "Number of no-charge prescriptions in group 2—X).

For June prescriptions only it will also be necessary to sort into a separate batch forms EC10, etc., bearing prescriptions dispensed up to and including June 9; those forms and prescriptions should be included in the group 1 totals.

A specimen of the front of the revised invoice form is being sent out with the newsletter:—

	TOTAL NUMBER OF FORMS	TOTAL NUMBER OF PRESCRIPTIONS
Group 1. All forms bearing prescriptions for exempted classes of patients	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Group 2. All forms bearing prescription(s) for which one or more prescription charges are applicable	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Group 3. (Only applicable to designated rural contractors). All forms bearing prescriptions for which charges have been paid by the affixing of postage stamps	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Number of "no-charge" prescriptions in Group 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
TOTALS	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

NOTE: Forms EC10 must be sorted into doctor order or included in the miscellaneous batch. Postage stamps affixed to forms must be franked with the chemist contractor's stamp before submission to the Pricing Bureau.

Forms EC10 dispensed before June 10 which have been returned by the pricing bureau for elucidation, etc., should be included in Group 1.

Hospital forms EC10 HP for drug addicts presented for dispensing before June 10, against which subsequent supplies were made after June 10 (and which do not carry a charge) should be included in the June 1-9 packet of prescriptions.

Guidance to Scottish Chemists

THE Scottish Home and Health Department has issued guidance to chemists on the way in which they should treat prescriptions for items they would be prepared to supply for less than 2s. 6d. Where an item is prescribed which does not require compounding or labelling, and which would normally be supplied "over the counter" at less than 2s. 6d., the chemist is expected to sell it at the retail price and endorse the prescription "not supplied."

BIRTHDAY HONOURS

DR. A. K. RANKIN (lately chairman, Cumberland Executive Council).

Members

MR. D. D. DAVIDSON (managing director, Zimmer Orthopaedic, Ltd.) "for services to export."

MR. J. ANDERSON STEWART, F.P.S. (pharmaceutical member, Middlesex Executive Council).

MR. L. W. H. WRIGHT (advisory manager (export), A. Gallenkamp & Co., Ltd.) "for services to export."

British Empire Medal

MR. H. PATTERSON (pharmacy storekeeper, Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast).

MR. H. PRESTON (superintendent of hand-blown and hand-pressed glassware, James A. Jobling & Co., Ltd.).

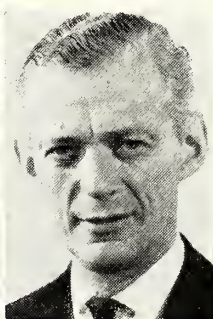
MR. D. J. T. WARLOW (foreman, P. Leiner & Sons (Wales), Ltd.) "for services to export."

SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

ELECTED *President* of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain at a Council meeting on June 12 was Mr. A. Howells. The new *Vice-president* is Mr. W. M. Darling. Mr. H. Steinman was re-elected *Treasurer* and Mr. D. Lewis *Secretary and Registrar*.



Mr. J. A. Stewart



Mr. H. C. L. Garnett

THE Birthday Honours list, published on June 8, included the following:—

Life Peer

SIR WILLIAM R. BLACK (chairman, National Research Development Corporation).

Knight Bachelor

MR. R. L. SICH, C.B. (Registrar of Restrictive Trading Agreements).

ORDER OF THE BATH

Knight Commander

MR. B. C. ENGHOLM, C.B. (permanent secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food).

Companion

DR. R. M. SHAW (deputy chief medical officer, Ministry of Health).

ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

Commanders

MR. H. C. L. GARNETT (chairman, Gillette Industries, Ltd.) "for services to export."

PROFESSOR R. L. WAIN (honorary director, unit on plant growth substances and systemic fungicides, Agricultural Research Council, Wye, Kent).

ALDERMAN T. HOLMES (chairman, Durham Executive Council).



Mr. A. Howells



Mr. W. M. Darling

ALUMINIUM FOIL IN PACKAGING

Wide interest shown at London symposium

A SYMPOSIUM on aluminium foil in packaging, organised jointly by the British Foil Rollers' Association and the Aluminium Federation and held recently in London, attracted more than 400 participants. Pharmaceutical packaging was dealt with by Mr. D. A. HUGHES (Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd.) who said that, while foil offered the highest moisture-vapour barrier potential in flexible packaging, a flexible package was only as good as its seal. Cause of most failures was excessive jaw pressure. Flexible packaging was ideal for presenting unit-dose quantities, but its cost was directly proportional to the number of units packed. For tablets up to perhaps twenty, strip or thermoformed packaging was cheapest; thereafter it became progressively less competitive.

Absolute Barrier

DR. T. H. ANGEL (B.A.F.R.A. technical committee) said that foil could be an absolute barrier to moisture, gases, odour, bacteria and moulds, and the high reflectivity of aluminium ensured good protection against radiant heat; its opacity was important. Though foil was harder than paper or films it could not, however, be regarded as a complete barrier to all insects. (A questioner produced Continental examples of "invaded" soup packets.)

The foil sachet said Mr. M. S. WEBB (Bowater Packaging, Ltd.), could be developed to provide new shapes in the packaging of liquids. A new American system, using pre-fabricated, internally sterilised pouches (feeding them through an external surface-sterilising ultra-violet chamber, filling and resealing them within a superheated steam atmosphere) provided filled pouches for non-refrigerated shelf-stable storage. Foil laminates provided greater

product protection than transparent laminates, preventing loss of volatile constituents and providing positive barriers against light, moisture vapour, oxygen and bacteria. Additional attributes were aesthetic appeal and the ability to integrate with graphic design. As coatings or laminating materials the ionomer resins, though at present expensive, possessed the solid-state properties of crosslinked hydrocarbon polymers and the melt-flow characteristics of un-crosslinked hydrocarbon polymers.

For visual appeal, said Mr. W. M. DE MAIO (a consultant designer) packages should have a neat, simple and unpretentious typography, and large, bold type was not always more readable than smaller type surrounded by plain areas. Impact was greater when all related items (stationery, products, packages, etc.) were designed or coordinated by the same designer.

An edited version of the symposium proceedings is being published later this year (details from Aluminium Federation, Portland House, Stag Place, London, S.W.1).

EXPANSION PROJECTS

CORNERSTONE of a new factory for Organon (India), Ltd., was laid at Ganganagar, near Calcutta, on May 22. Hormone and other pharmaceutical preparations based mainly on indigenous raw materials will be produced in the factory. The project will cost about Rs. 10 million (£600,000).

A THREE-STORY office building now being built at Dartford, Kent, at a cost of £265,000, by the Wellcome Foundation, Ltd., includes office accommodation (to be completed by the spring of 1969) providing 42,000 sq. ft. of floor area and housing the company's central computer.

COMPANY NEWS

Previous year's figures in parentheses

AGFA-GEVAERT A.G. — Turnover increased by 6 per cent. in the first half of the company's financial year 1967-68. The investment programme, which in 1967-68 amounts to over £9 m., is being continued according to plan.

STANLEY WESTON GROUP, LTD.—The company proposes to raise £750,000 by means of a rights issue to Ordinary and Deferred holders. Terms are expected to be one-for-two at 14s. Authorised capital is to be increased to £500,000.

SANGERS, LTD.—Treasury approval has been given for an increased dividend of 7 per cent. (5 per cent.) shareholders having received only 3 per cent. in 1965-66 and no dividend for three years previously. Group pre-tax profits for the year ended February 29 were £536,468 (£372,018) subject to tax of £236,650 (£163,308).

COLEMAN & CO., LTD.—Payment of a final dividend of 10½ per cent. is recommended making a total of 15½ per cent. for the year ended March 31 (15 per cent.) A request to distribute a total of 16 per cent. has been refused by the Treasury. Profit before taxation was £189,236 (£148,720); £107,579 (£89,530) net. Group profit before tax includes an exceptional charge of £14,367 to secure employees' profit sharing on a current year basis.

BOOTS PURE DRUG CO., LTD.—An "excellent" year is reported by the chairman (Mr. Willoughby R. Norman) in his statement to shareholders for 1967-68. Total world sales were up by 7 per cent. and retail sales by 7½ per cent. (for figures see C. & D., May 18, p.437). Sales of medical specialities to hospitals and private chemists improved. Direct exports also improved to £2.8m. and sales by overseas companies to £4.18m. (£3.87m.). Commenting on Government measures, such as the Budget and Transport Bill, Mr. Norman believes that the customer will be "appalled at the result when all these measures have worked through into the price of goods and services." In the current year, £4.5m. is being spent, adding a further 100,000 sq. ft. of sales space, apart from the shops of Timothy Whites & Taylors, Ltd. Mr. Norman says that the company is worried about a drop in the number of pharmacy students and the falling proportion of graduates entering retail pharmacy. "Our pharmacist position is adequate in the short term but if this trend is not reversed it could endanger the pharmaceutical service to the public." The time between registration and first managerial appointment has been further reduced because of the situation. An effect of the Medicines Bill, the report forecasts, will be to cause great delay in bringing new products to the market, requiring increased staff to deal with the complexities of proposed new regulations. A number of changes in the company's articles of association will be put before an extraordinary meeting on July 11, including an extension of the permitted number of directors from twelve to twenty.



ACETIC ACID PLANT: Part of the DF complex at BP Chemicals (U.K.), Ltd., Salt End, Hull, factory which operates around the clock, seven days a week to produce up to 90,000 tons acetic acid and a number of co-products.

BUSINESS CHANGES

PHARMACAL SUPPLIES, LTD., have moved to Lincoln Way, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex (telephone 87411).

S. SIMMONDS, LTD., have closed their branch at 288 Upper Street, London, N.1.

COTY (ENGLAND) LTD., have completed a major reorganisation of offices, laboratories and manufacturing activities, all now located at Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex (telephone 01-560 5282). Coty House, Stratford Place, London, W.1, will continue to be used as a reception and conference centre (and from July 1 as a West End showroom for the Coty Christmas range). Coty distribution centre is at Sandwich, Kent.

APPOINTMENTS

Executives

REXALL DRUG CO.—Mrs. Margaret R. Arthur has been appointed sales promotion manager.

LEICESTER CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LTD., have appointed Mr. C. J. Glover superintendent chemist. Mr. Glover was previously superintendent for Coalville Co-operative Society.

UNITED CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION, LTD.—Mr. J. M. Rogers (acting general manager for the past year) has been appointed general manager and an executive director.

Representatives

HAARMANN & REIMER, LTD., have appointed Mr. R. W. Harris sales representative for London and the home counties.

PHARMAX, LTD., have appointed the following medical representatives: Messrs. A. D. Alexander (for Lincolnshire); A. P. Byrne (West/South-west London); G. D. Carvell (North London); P. J. Crean (West Sussex, part Surrey, part Hampshire); J. A. Crozier (East London); D. J. S. Durrant (Berkshire, North Hampshire); B. S. Hoult (Derbyshire); R. D. G. Neate (Middlesex); A. P. Pieri (South-east London); D. B. Robertson (Glasgow); J. P. Steele (Shropshire, part Staffordshire) and S. W. Watson (South Durham, part Yorkshire).

PERSONALITIES

MR. FRANK COUSINS is being appointed chairman of the Central Training Council.

MR. H. HART, M.P.S., has been elected president of Aylesbury chamber of commerce. He is the first pharmacist to occupy the position.

MRS. ROSE GREEN, M.P.S., F.B.O.A., F.R.S.H., has been installed first woman president, South Norwood chamber of commerce.

DR. M. G. CANDAU has been re-appointed director-general of the World Health Organisation for a further period of five years. He has held the office for the past fifteen years.

MR. A. H. FRASER, who recently retired as managing director of A. H. Fraser Holdings, Ltd., is also withdrawing as a director of the main

board of J. Bibby & Sons, Ltd., in order to devote more time to his private business interests.

MR. E. KATZ (president, Bio Products, Inc.) is in Britain on a short visit. Mr. Katz pioneered the introduction of Propa P.H. skin lotion in the United States. He may be contacted through Bio Products, Ltd., Barman House, Park Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

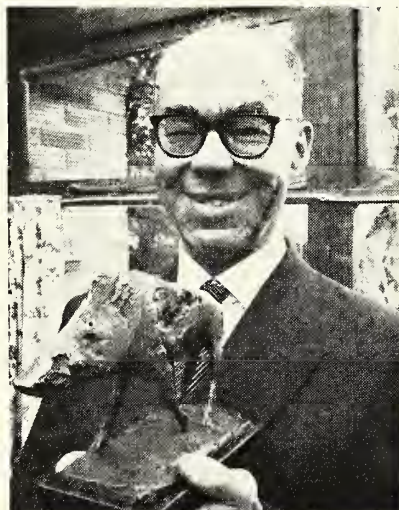


THIRTY-FIVE GOLD WATCHES: Seven centuries of service to Ronson Products, Ltd., Leatherhead, Surrey, were recognised when at a luncheon in London recently, gold watches were presented to thirty-five employees. All had seen the company grow from small beginnings to its present pre-eminence. Picture shows three of them with the company's chairman, Mr. Kenyon Jones.

MR. R. HEARN (chairman, British Aerosol Manufacturers Association) presented a paper on "European Aerosol Statistics" to the convention of the Chemical Specialities Manufacturers' Association Aerosol division held in Chicago, U.S.A., May 20. **MR. R. P. HARRIS** (Swallowfield Aerosols, Ltd.) also read a paper on "Pharmaceutical and Foods—Sterile Aerosols."

MR. J. C. NEIL, Catrine, Ayr, who has been appointed provost of Newton Stewart, has been since 1950 proprietor of the old-established pharmacy of James Dunn. Mr. Neil was co-opted to the town council in 1958 and for the past six years has been a magistrate.

DR. R. MAXWELL SAVAGE, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.I.C., (consultant, Maws Pharmacy Supplies Ltd.), has been given the 1967 Stamford Raffles award (given annually by the Zoolo-



gical Society of London for work in the field of zoological science) for the results of his many years' research into

the breeding of English and South African frogs. The trophy (a sculpture of a wild boar) was presented to him at the Zoological Society's headquarters by the Duke of Edinburgh. Before becoming consultant to Maw's Pharmacy Supplies, Ltd., Barnet, Herts, Dr. Savage was the company's chief chemist 1922-65.

MR. H. R. MILNE, proprietor of two pharmacies in Perth, has retired. A native of Edinburgh, Mr. Milne went to Perth in 1934 and was later in business on his own account in Crieff, 1944-48, returning to Perth in 1949. Mr. Milne has been for many years secretary of the Perthshire Pharmacists' Association and since 1951 a member of Perth and Kinross Executive Council. His services to the Scout movement were recognised on May 27 when he was presented by the Chief Scout (Sir Charles Maclean) with the Silver Acorn, the second highest award in scouting.

DEATHS

DEARING.—On May 20, Mr. John Kenneth Dearing, M.P.S., 20 Belgrave Drive, Hornsea, Yorks. Mr. Dearing qualified in 1930.

DIXON.—Suddenly, Mr. Eric Edwin Dixon, M.P.S., 11 Ilkeston Road, Bramcote Beeston, Notts, aged fifty-seven. Mr. Dixon, who qualified in 1936, died at the wheel of his car while driving along the M.1 motorway, near Markfield, Leics. He and his wife were returning from a holiday and Mrs. Dixon was fortunately able to switch off the engine and steer the car to the side of the motorway as her husband collapsed. An ambulance took Mr. Dixon to Leicester Royal Infirmary but he was found dead on arrival.

DUNNE.—Recently, Mr. Denis J. Dunne, M.P.S.I., O'Connell Square, Ennis, co. Clare, Eire. Mr. Dunne qualified in 1926. For many years he was manager of Seymour & Co. (Ennis), Ltd., where his daughter is at present employed.

QUINN.—On May 21 Mr. L. J. V. Quinn, field force manager, Agricare Products, Pfizer, Ltd., aged forty-six.

RAMSDEN.—On May 14, Mr. Wilfred Scotcher Ramsden, F.P.S., 20 Beech Grove, Fallowfield, Manchester 14. Mr. Ramsden qualified in 1908.

ROBERTSON.—On May 17, Mr. John Robertson, M.P.S., 205 North Street, Romford, Essex. Mr. Robertson qualified in 1931.

SCANNELL.—Recently, Mr. John Scannell, M.P.S.I., Brown Street, Portlaw, co. Waterford, Eire. Mr. Scannell, who was unmarried, qualified in 1953 and owned a pharmacy in Portlaw for many years, retiring on health grounds in 1967.

STEIN.—On May 23, Mr. George Stein, M.P.S., 374 Barking Road, London, E.13. Mr. Stein qualified in 1928.

WHITE.—Recently, Sir Rudolf Dymoke White, M.P.S., Sharrington Hall Farm, Melton Constable, Norfolk. Sir Dymoke White qualified in 1911. He was a grandson of the founder of the Timothy Whites chain of pharmacies.

A NEW WAY OF SELLING COLOUR FILM

How an Ilford scheme operates

ALL colour films of Ilford, Ltd., Ilford, Essex, are now being sold at prices that do not include the cost of processing. Processing of both colour-negative and reversal films will be carried out at the company's laboratories in Basildon, Essex. The processing payment will be made by the customer when he returns the exposed films. Because of the rapidly increasing popularity of colour prints the range of Ilford Super Colorprint films is being extended to include 120 and 127 roll films, in addition to the 35-mm. and 126 cartridge formats currently available. Ilford will continue to offer its successful 4-film Colorcine holiday pack as well as single units of Colorcine, Colorslide 35-mm. and Super Colorslide 126 Cartridge film. All sizes of Super Colorprint film are being offered at the recommended price of 5s. Cost of extra colour prints from Super Colorprint negatives has also been reduced to 1s. 4d. for additional enprints. Enlargements (5 x 7 in. from rectangular negatives, 5 x 5 in. from square negatives) will be 5s. each. All extra prints can be ordered either through a photographic dealer or direct from the company. An introductory offer of two films for the price of one is being made. Colorslide 35-mm.

film will also be offered at two films for the price of one (two 20-exposure films in a Twin-Pack for 8s. 9d.). The Ilford Pocket Print return presentation, previously only available with 126 Super Colorprint film, will become a standard service for all but prints from less common sizes (e.g., half-frame). Also introduced is another print credit service, under which customers receive a voucher worth one shilling for each unprintable colour-negative frame. Vouchers may be used as credit against the processing cost of any subsequent Super Colorprint film. The company has also introduced two new cartridge-loading cameras. The Ilfomatic Universal 50 camera, launched last year, has been up-dated by the addition of a built-in flashcube holder and will be called the Ilfomatic Universal 50C. The Universal Flash has a single element f/11 meniscus lens offers universal focus and single speed shutter, and includes a double exposure prevention device, a thumb-wheel film advance, optical viewfinder, and built-in flashcube unit.

The Universal Flash is also available in outfit containing wrist strap, one Ilford Super Colorprint cartridge film, together with three flashcubes and two batteries.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NOTES

Projector Lamps Down in Price.— Price cuts amounting in some cases to more than 35 per cent. have been announced by British Lighting Industries, Ltd., Thorn House, Upper St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C.2, for the popular types of Atlas and Mazda brands of cine and still projector lamps.

Agfa-Gevaert Introductions.— Coinciding with the introduction of Agfacolor CN S film supplied in Pak cartridges (126), Agfa-Gevaert, Ltd., Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex, are supplying their first camera for the 126 system the Agfa Iso-Pak. Cartridge changing has been made even easier as the Pak cartridge is automatically raised on opening the back of the camera. The Iso-Pak has a fixed focus f/11 lens in two-speed Parator shutter, Newton optical viewfinder, accessory shoe flash contact and double and blank exposure prevention and is available in gift outfit containing Iso-Pak camera and wrist sling and one CN S-Pak 126 film. Also introduced is a new Agfacolor negative film (known as Agfacolor CN S) with a speed of 20 DIN/80 ASA. Advantages claimed for the new film are wide exposure latitude (−1 to +2 lens stops), fine grain and excellent definition with "outstanding" colour rendering and colour separation achieved by the use of a yellow and a red mask. Use of two masks is particularly apparent in high colour saturation of yellow areas of the subject and in the purity of blue shades. Processing is the same as for Agfacolor CN 17 Universal film, but a rather longer fixing time is needed. A new replenisher for Agfacolor fixing bath (code RN III) will be supplied from ser. No. 32400 to trade

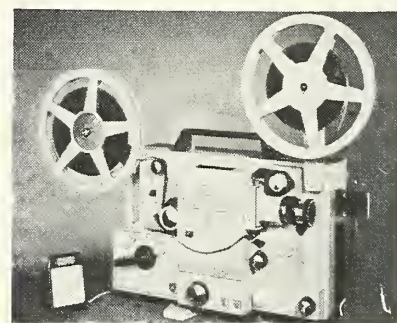
users. The film is supplied as roll, miniature, Rapid film and also as 126 Pak film for cartridge-loading cameras. The company announce that their range of CT colour reversal film is now also available in 126 size. Transparencies from 126 film are being returned in plastic mounts at an inclusive price, as for standard 35-mm. transparencies.

New Terms.— Photopia International, Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs, have introduced new terms of trading and Conditions of Sale applicable to its subsidiaries. Photopia, Ltd., Japanese Cameras, Ltd., Paul Plus, Ltd., and Mayfair Photographic Suppliers (London), Ltd. As a result of the abandonment of resale price maintenance they no longer refer to dealer discount but instead use only net to dealer prices. Recommended prices to the public are being continued for promotional purposes. Cash discounts are now as follows:—(a) Accounts payable monthly by the twentieth of the month following date of invoice without deduction; (b) for payment sixty days in advance of delivery 23 per cent. cash discount allowed; (c) for payment seven days after date of invoice 3½ per cent. cash discount allowed. Discounts apply to all listed products regardless of quantity, and are fully operative rates available to all buyers of those products. Purchase-tax is not subject to discount. A new scheme of quantity discounts based on the decimal system is also being introduced. The Commissioners of Customs and Excise have approved the allowance of a corresponding notional value reduction up to a maximum of 10 per cent. for the purpose of purchase-tax calculation.

Purchase-tax reductions (based on new notional value calculations) are additional to previously cash discounts.

Chester Processor Reopens.— The directors of Northern Associated Photofinishers, Ltd., P.O. Box 27, Sealand Road, Chester, held a reception on 21 May, to celebrate the reopening of their Chester laboratory, which was destroyed by fire three months ago. Present were the mayor of Chester and over 200 guests including dealers, suppliers and staff from other branches of the company. Visitors were shown the rebuilt and re-equipped laboratories now in full operation for black and white film processing. The company participate in an international system of comparative quality analysis for black and white processing and uses a new Swedish system of staff training with pre-recorded instructions in machine operation transmitted to workers through earphones, the first application of the method in this country, it is claimed, by a processing laboratory.

Automated Sound Projectors.— The Eumig mark S 701 Super-8 projector and its dual-gauge twin, the Eumig



Mark S 709, allow the technically untrained amateur to mix and superimpose speech and music with minimum trouble. They allow a commentary to be added in a second projection after background music has been recorded, the music being automatically faded during speech. After the film has been sound-stripped and the background music recorded, the superimposition key is pressed and all further recording operations are automatically taken care of by the projector's sound amplifier without any further manual operation. As soon as the commentary is terminated the amplifier automatically switches off and within two seconds the music reaches its original volume. A red lamp shows the speech is superimposed on to the music. About one second after speaking is finished the lamp goes out to show that the music recording regains its full volume. By using one record-replay and erase-head for each format robustness, trouble-free operation and optimal sound quality for each format are ensured claim the makers. Both new models are equipped with the ten-component Austrovar f/1.4 15-25mm. zoom lens and 12-volt/100-watt tungsten halogen lamp. Running speed is adjustable from 18 to 24 fps and provision is also made for frame-line and height adjustment. Distributors are Johnsons of Hendon, Ltd., Hendon Way, London, N.W.4.

NEW PRODUCTS AND PACKS

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES

As a Syrup. — Geigy (U.K.), Ltd., pharmaceutical division, Hurdfield Industrial Estate, Macclesfield, Cheshire, have made available a Tofranil syrup for the treatment of enuretic children and for use by depressed patients who express difficulty in swallowing tablets or capsules. Tofranil syrup is issued in bottle of 120 mls, which contains imipramine as a resin complex (equivalent to 25 mgm. of imipramine hydrochloride).

For Treating Enteric Infections. — Bristol Laboratories, Ltd., Astronaut House, Hounslow Road, Feltham, Middlesex, have made available Kantrexil tablets (formulated to meet demands for a product with the therapeutic advantages of Kantrexil suspension but which would not involve inconvenience to the ambulant patient of liquid preparations). Kantrexil tablets are designed for treating diarrhoea and enteric infections so as to eliminate the infection, provide symptomatic relief and promote a rapid return to normal bowel function. Packs are bottles of twelve and 120 tablets each containing 100 mgm. of kanamycin sulphate, 25 mgm. of pectin, 250 mgm. of bismuth subcarbonate and 500 mgm. of activated attapulgit.



NEW IMAGE FOR A PRODUCT: Parke Davis & Co., Staines Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, recently introduced for their Caladryl range of products the new-style packs illustrated. Surface design of the aerosol pack, launched 1967, with brand name and instructions reversed in white on bronze gold and incorporates a circular motif of dots and thin rules in red has been adopted for the whole series.

VETERINARY SPECIALITIES

Sheep Vaccines. — Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Euston Road, London, N.W.1, have added to their home veterinary professional list Omnivax sheep vaccine (oily adjuvant) in container of 100 mls (50 doses) and Omnivax C.V.A. brand sheep vaccine (aqueous) in container of 100 mls (50 doses).

OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICINALS

Pastilles in Sachet Pack. — All three flavours of Throaties pastilles, manufactured by Arcadian Confections, Ltd., Crediton, Devon, are now available in a handy sachet pack that replaces the former carton. Weight content of the pack has been increased from 1 to 1½ oz. In addition to providing greater

protection and keeping qualities to the pastilles, the sachet is a more attractive pack.

Medicated Foot Cream: For sore, hot and weary feet, and for athlete's foot, J. Pickles & Sons (J. Pickles (Harrogate), Ltd.) 57 Cold Bath Road, Harrogate, Yorks, have brought out a new product, "Healthy Feet" cream, to counteract the causes of malodorous perspiration. Lanolin-based, the cream contains glycerin for soothing and menthol for cooling as well as hexachlorophene, cetrimide and chlorophyll. The tube is packed in a novel sleeve.

COSMETICS AND TOILETRIES

Waterproof Liquid Mascara. — Girl Cosmetics, Ltd., Surbiton, Surrey, are bringing out a waterproof liquid mascara in a screw-topped bottle. Colours are black and brown.

Now National. — The Spruce after-shave speciality of Gillette Safety Razor Co., Isleworth, Middlesex, launched in certain television areas in August 1967, is now on full national distribution.

Body and Foot Deodorant. — A deodorant Previl by Regarde Preparations & Co., 39 Ravensdale Avenue, London, N.12, is claimed to "attack the root cause" of unpleasant body and foot odours. It is issued in containers of 2 and 4 oz.

Sun-tan Make-Up. — Coty (England) Ltd., Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex, have added to their range, Sunshimmer, a tan make-up. There are three shades, golden tan, bronze, and copper in white tube, bearing a scroll motif. A merchandiser counter unit carries twelve tubes.

All-Purpose Cream. — Described as an all-purpose cream containing pure lemon juice, new Lempak cream issued by Thos. Christy & Co., Ltd., North Lane, Aldershot, Hants, is said to have been subject to widespread consumer tests and proved acceptable particularly as a foundation and as a moisturising cream. The decorated tin includes a stylised lemon in its design.

Non-allergic Mascara. — Pearmoss, Ltd., 53 Great Marlborough Street, London, W.1, are introducing in the Longcils Boncza series of non-allergic eye cosmetics a gold and grey encased Wand mascara, Longcilmatic, in black, brown, grey and dark blue, with refills; and a new eye-shadow powder compact with mirror in pastel blue, almond green and dove grey, complete with two applicators.



Counter tester and free gift "dispensers" of Max Factor's new parfum crème.

Eye-shadow Stick and Eye-liners. — New preparations in the Illumination range of Helena Rubinstein, Ltd., 3 Grafton Street, London, W.1, are Illumination eye-shadow stick in "lumina mint" and "lumina blue" shades, as well as in the "extravagant" lumina gold and lumina copper shades; and new Illumination eye-liners in charcoal brown and grey, blue and moss elegances.

Twin Soap Pack. — Morny, Ltd., 201 Regent Street, London, W.1, have adopted a new twin pack for their bath soap, the design matching that of the single pack with the advantage



that the double carton takes up less storage space than two single cartons. The twin pack is available in Morny's most popular fragrance, French Fern, sandalwood, lily of the valley, and pink lilac and replaces the old pairs pack.

Redesigned Jar. — Maws Pharmacy Supplies, Ltd., Aldersgate House, Barnet, Herts, are now packing their toilet lanolin cream in a redesigned jar. The straight-sided base has been abolished to make way for a more elegant ribbed effect, graduating in circumference from the bottom to the top. The ribbing also makes the 120-gm. jar easier to handle. The base is in eau-de-nil colour and the lid in aquamarine with gold lettering.

Make-up Refills. — Dorothy Gray, Ltd., 45 Conduit Street, London, W.1, have introduced, in their Elation make-up collection, brush-on refills for the Elation blusher, contouring set and twin-colour eye-shadow set, needing only the addition of a brush to be used independently. Refills are also available for Elation propelling pencil and Elation brush-on mascara. By mischance the company's new feminine deodorant was incorrectly spelt in a recent paragraph in this column. Its name is Perfemma.

Perfumed Body Lotion. — A new perfumed body lotion, *Eau de Satin*, from the Christian Dior research laboratories, is designed to replace the skin's own natural moisture, and is understood to be especially helpful in hard-water areas and in the treatment of dry skin conditions. It is absorbed by the skin without trace of stickiness, and the warmth of the body develops and enhances the fragrances of the perfume (Miss Dior, Diorama, Diorissimo or Diorling). Distributors are Charles of the Ritz, Ltd., Brook House, Park Lane, London, W.1. Six new "sand pastels" shades of nail

enamel and lipstick have been introduced by Christian Dior for spring-summer, 1968. The shades, say the makers, are "perhaps inspired" by Gauguin.

Additional Shades.—Four decorative new shades have been added to the range of long lasting nail enamels from Woltz, Italiana. The shades are



Fuschia Flash, Dahlia Petal, Toasted Sugar and Lilium Glow and are available from Biometica, Ltd., Barnet Bypass, Boreham Wood, Herts.

Tinted Face Cream.—A new product, "Creme Blush" of Elizabeth Arden, Ltd., 25 Old Bond Street, London, W.1, is described as the newest way to achieve the 1968 look ("natural—almost barefaced"). The product is a flowing transparent tinted cream that is smoothed over the face, and "perfect" say the makers, for the girl or woman who wants a hint of colour without the coverage of a regular foundation. It is available in four shades (very beigy, very pinky, very peachy and very sunny) plus one frosted highlighter, very frosty.

"Pearly Pale" Eye Cosmetics.—In the Gala of London series (Myram Picker, Ltd., Hook Rise, Surbiton, Surrey) are now new "Pearly Pale" eye cosmetics, described as shell tints that just tint



eyes with colour shades lighter than ever. The new shades are ivory, blush, sky and sage. "Pearly Pale" liners, also available, "glide on easily, dry shinely." They are available in ice, fawn, sand and ash shades.

Quartet for Sun Lovers.—Four products, all for girls in the sun, are new in the Mary Quant series distributed by Myram Picker, Ltd., Hook Rise, Surbiton, Surrey. "Topspeed Tan," designed to give in four hours a tan that lasts a week, is a lotion with built-in Sunscreen. "Red Glosser," a pearly

tinted gloss, also with built-in sunscreen, is in Sunfun (pale) and Sun-smasher (deeper) pink shades for use according to depth of tan, and presented on black and white PVC wristbands respectively. A new waterproof liner is available in black and pearl navy, greige or olive, each with brush. A "tearproof" mascara is also available in black or brown, each with refill.

Deodorant/Antiperspirant.—A new perfumed roll-on deodorant antiperspirant by Coty (England), Ltd., distribution centre, Sandwich, Kent, is lotion-based and non-sticky, and you will like its refreshing cologne-based fragrance too, which has been specially devised to complement the properties of the deodorant. Research figures reveal that over 70 per cent. of all women use a deodorant and of these the majority prefer to use one that has an easy roll-on application. It is in lime-green-and-white pack bearing new scroll design.

New-formula Deodorant.—Toni Co., 101 Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex, are launching Bud, a new-formula deodorant designed to meet the personal needs of every woman. Bud is understood to contain special additives that are effective in preventing body odour whilst protecting clothing. The range comprises an aerosol deodorant, a roll-on anti-perspirant "dispenser" and an



anti-perspirant deodorant squeeze-bottle in blue packs that have been designed to add more than just a touch of glamour to the bathroom shelf or dressing table.

Feminine Spray Deodorants.—Intec Proprietaries, Ltd., Crown House, Morden, Surrey, have produced a new dry spray deodorant, Mistess, for perfect feminine hygiene. It gives a woman, they say, the fresh clean confidence that she would not get from a thousand perfumed baths because Mistess contains a special medicated ingredient for the outer vaginal area. "Months of research have proved that every aspect of Mistess is just right; its elegant container, its delicate fragrance and its special formula." The pressurised pack contains 54 gm. The spray is for use at any time during the day or evening, and is especially useful during monthly periods, after exercise,

and before retiring. A display piece is available that holds six cans.

New Products in Range.—Bellair Cosmetics, Ltd., Boardman Street, Oldham, Lancs, have added two new "holds" to their hairspray range. Bell-



air No. 1 "super" hold and No. 2 "softer" hold complete a trio with the previous "standard" spray. All three are available in aerosol or squeeze spray packs with refills.

SUNDRIES

Tear-off Polythene Gloves.—Herzbi, Ltd., 16 Northwold Road, London, N.16, have made available a pad of disposable tear-off polythene gloves: Poly-gloves, useful in many industries, for protecting the hands from dirt, oil, chemicals, paints, water, etc., and in



the home. The gloves are issued in "dispensers" of various numbers of packs of ten. The gloves, manufactured from high-quality polythene, may be used either singly or in pairs, since they fit either hand. They are in two sizes (one for men and one for women).

ITALIAN COSMETICS IN BRITAIN

Concerted promotion in London

ITALY is currently engaged on a drive to promote sales of Italian cosmetics and perfumery products in the United Kingdom. At the Italian Trade Centre in London, recently, twenty-seven leading manufacturers, including three producers of wigs and hairpieces, showed their latest products, some of which are already on sale in the U.K. Italy is well placed to figure prominently in the field because she produces many of the essences required in the preparation of perfumes—for example bergamot, orange blossom, lavender, jasmine, mint, etc.

Notable progress has been made recently in men's toiletries (and the world's most important quarries of talc are, of course, located in Italy).

Currently about 200 Italian companies are engaged in the manufacture of cosmetics, perfumery and toilet articles, to a total turnover of over £1 million sterling. Exports reached £2.6 million sterling in 1967.

Among the exhibitors with already appointed agents in Britain were the House of Borsari, founded in 1870, and one of the oldest established perfumery houses in Europe. The company's *Violetta di Parma* perfume series is internationally known.

Three other Borsari perfumes, *Il mio Sogno* (My Dream), Summit lavender, described as "bitter, dry lasting," and *Notte Romana* (Roman Night), are illustrated on this page.

Sole selling agents and distributors are Borsari (U.K.), Ltd., 71 Parnell Road, London, E.3.

Products of Ivo M. Lechner, Milan (Misslyn nail varnishes, lipsticks, hand cream, cuticle remover, etc.) are distributed by Italian Laboratories, Ltd., 33 Newman Street, London, W.1.

Victor of Milan, Ltd., 91 Acton Lane, London, N.W.10 distribute the Victor toiletries for men (*Acqua di Selva*, *Silvestre*, *Fresca*, *Uomo*, shave lotions, deodorants, shaving creams and foam, hair cream and brilliantine, bath foam, soap, etc.).

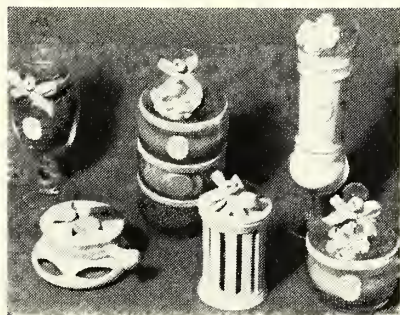
Pino Silvestre, a product of A. Vidal, Venice, has been on distribution on the British market for the past ten months by Supervite Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 107 Great Eastern Street, London, E.C.2, and is understood to

have been gaining increasing acceptance. A free offer of *Bagnoschiama* bath foam is being made in the June issue of *Vanity Fair*.

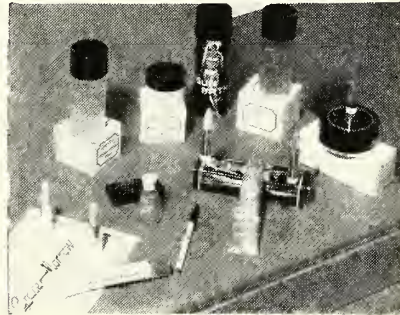
Representatives of Woltz Italiana nail enamels, removers, thinner and hardener of Woltz, Milan, are S. R. Van Duzer & Son, Ltd., High Wycombe, Bucks, who distribute to the trade through Biometica, Ltd., Boreham Wood, Herts.

Exhibitors whose products are new to Britain included Arachistain, Corso Trento 5, Fossano (skin creams, emulsions, lotions and milks); Baldan, Via L. Bruni 25, Milan; A. Bertelli, Via A. Maiocchi 6, Milan (Bertelli eau de Cologne, Venus skin creams); Cella, Viale Cirene 9, Milan (toiletries); Cotebi, Biochimica Laboratori Farmaceutici Piazza S. Maria 15, Bussetto (cosmetics); Flor-mar, Via Forze

Armata 320/4, Milan (cosmetics and perfumery; men's toiletries); Garden Cosmetici, Via Monte S. Michele 4, Novara (cosmetics and toiletries); Mario Giussani, Via P. Ameglio 3, Genoa (eye cosmetics and eye-lash curlers); Laboratori A. & G. Vaj, Via Vittorio Veneto 63, Piacenza (toiletries); La Ducale, Casella Postale 2, Parma (perfumery); Layla, Via Zama 40, Milan (cosmetics and nail lacquer); Linetti Profumi, Cannaregio 99, Venice (perfumery); Nancy Facchi, Via Dogana 4, Milan (cosmetics); Niggi, Casella Postale 643, Imperia (cosmetics, perfumery and bath products); Panigal Saponerie Italiane, Via Decumana 55, Bologna (cosmetics); Pierrel Associate, Via Turati 30, Milan (Danusa toiletries); and Tocco Magico, Via Feronia 3, Rome (shampoos, lacquers, etc.). Wigs and hairpieces were displayed by Italwig, Via Culigliano 54, Rome; and Romanwig, Viale G. Marconi 74, Rome.



NEAT AND ATTRACTIVE: Left—Packs by Niggi, Imperia. Right—The Grace Morrow range by Cotebi, Bussetto.



TRADE NOTES

Books for Pharmacists.—The books published in the C. & D. series should henceforth be ordered from Morgan-Grampian Books, Ltd., 28 Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Metricated.—Pharmaceutical Specialties (May & Baker), Ltd., Dagenham, Essex, have reformulated Vallergran syrup and Anthisan elixir to a 5-mil dosage. The syrup now contains 7.5 mgm. trimeprazine tartrate in 5 mils. The elixir now contains 25 mgm. of mepyrmine maleate in 5 mils. Stocks of the 3.6-mil formulation of each product should be used up before

issuing the new 5-mil dose preparations.

Pack and Formula Change.—Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., pharmaceutical division, Nottingham, NG2 3AA, have reformulated Tusana sedative cough linctus and it is now available in a metric packing with the dosage expressed in units of 5 mils. Each 5 mils contains 5 mgm. of dextromethorphan hydrobromide, 0.025 mils of liquid extract of ipecacuanha and 3.75 mils of syrup of tolu. The bottle contains 110 mils.

Name Change.—Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Pharmaceuticals Division, Alderley House, Alderley Park, Macclesfield, Ches., state that following the introduction and increasing use of the 500-mgm. Atromid-S capsule, a number of doctors and pharmacists have pointed out that it would be desirable to simplify the distinction between the 500-mgm. and 250-mgm. strengths. In future, therefore, the 500-mgm. Atromid-S capsule is to be known as Atromid-S 500 and the 250-mgm. capsule Atromid-S 250. The new description will begin to appear on packs issued during the next few months. Atromid-S 500 will shortly be issued bearing an I.C.I. roundel stamped in white. In all other respects the capsule remains unchanged. No change is being made in the appearance of Atromid-S 250.



Il mio Sogno, Summit lavender and *Notte Romana* perfumes of Comm. Borsari e Figli, Parma.

Correspondence

Letters when received must bear the name and address of the sender, not necessarily for publication. The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the views expressed.

Fighting Every Inch

SIR,—What a pity the negotiators of N.H.S. terms in Scotland can't act for English contractors as well. Once again they have shown how to stand up to pressure exerted by the Ministry of Health by refusing the insulting "penny per prescription" for acting as tax collectors for the Government. When can we get negotiators who refuse to go cap in hand to the Ministry but fight every inch of the way? For heaven's sake, too, let's just get rid of the idea that we have to say "Yes Sir—No Sir—three bags full Sir" to the "medics." Like an increasing number of pharmacists, the doctors are merely graduates of universities, so why should we dance to any tune they like to call? Let's tell them once and for all "If you want the name put in the label—then put 'N.P.' on the script—if you don't put 'N.P.' you don't get the name."

F. WILKINSON,
Reading

Put in Perspective

SIR,—To obviate the risk of any misunderstanding, may I through the courtesy of your columns, correct an error made in your report on the annual meeting of the Unichem Association (C. & D., June 8, p. 507). May I emphasise that Unichem Ltd., and the Unichem Association are two separate entities, and there is no such body as "Unichem Association, Ltd." Some false impression may also have been created by an unhappy selection of quotations from my address to the meeting. In fairness to my colleagues in Unichem, I feel that the rhetorical statement which is quoted at the beginning of the report must be put into true perspective by quoting also my words which followed, namely, "I am happy to assure you, however, that this is by no means the mood of the company's executives at either the depôts or H.Q."

G. J. WHITE, General Manager,
UNICHEM, LTD.,
Morden, Surrey

Satisfying Work

SIR,—I am grateful to Mr. Young (C. & D., June 8, p. 520) for his comments on my article on production. I agree that production pharmacists have problems. Many of them stem from the fact that production is not an end in itself, but just one intermediate stage in the long chain between an idea and a customer. When the inevitable fluctuations occur in demand for a product, or labour availability, or raw material delivery dates, the production pharmacist often finds himself having to juggle products, equipment and staff to produce what is required when it is required. As I pointed out in my article, a production pharmacist does not work in a vacuum, but is in constant touch with the other departments of a manufacturing company and is

often affected by their problems. Although my experience so far has often included snags, my work in production has always been interesting and usually very satisfying.

A. J. FAIRHEAD
Nottingham

Presentation of a Portrait

SIR,—Dr. Hugh B. Nisbet, the first principal and vice-chancellor of Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, retired on September 30, 1967, after an association with the College and University extending over forty-six years. During his period as principal the College developed rapidly in scope and stature, and in January 1966 the fulfilment of his efforts was achieved when the Royal Charter establishing Heriot-Watt University was granted. Many of his colleagues and friends feel that his conspicuous service to education in Scotland, and to Heriot-Watt College and University in particular, should be marked by presenting him with his portrait. A representative committee has been formed to carry this out. As chairman of this committee, I appeal for subscriptions, which should be sent to the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. R. D. M. Clayton, F.C.I.S., Bursar, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, 1.

[SIR] HERBERT A. BRECHIN,
Lord Provost,
Edinburgh, 1

Professional Fees: Dispensing Fees

SIR,—From June 10 we are receiving an extra penny per prescription for the additional work involved in collecting prescription charges, etc. Little enough! But from September 1, that will be replaced by the addition of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to our oncost, and that increase in our oncost represents less than a halfpenny per prescription. A trivial reduction, no doubt, but the manner in which it is presented, if not intended to deceive, certainly misinforms, and is indicative of the attitude and outlook of the Ministry and the value placed on our services. A further indication of that valuation can be obtained by a study of the Drug Tariff and by comparing the amount paid to chemists in professional fees and oncost, with the amount paid to (unqualified) appliance contractors in dispensing fees and oncost. For appliances costing 2s. 6d. the chemist receives a professional fee of sixpence plus oncost of 3.3d. Total: 9.3d.; the unqualified receives a dispensing fee of fivepence plus oncost 25 per cent. 7.5d. Total: 12.5d. For appliances costing 5s. the chemist receives a professional fee of sixpence plus 11 per cent. oncost, 6.6d. Total: 12.6d.; the unqualified receives a dispensing fee of fivepence plus oncost of 25 per cent., 15.0d. Total: 20.0d. For hosiery costing, say, 25s., the chemist receives a professional fee of 5s., plus 11 per cent. oncost 2s. 9d. Total: 7s. 9d.; the

unqualified appliance contractor receives a dispensing fee of 3s. 7d. plus 25 per cent. oncost 6s. 3d. Total: 9s. 10d. For anklets, kneecaps and leggings, the chemist receives 2s. 6d. plus 11 per cent. oncost, whilst the appliance contractor actually receives 2s. 7d. (one penny more than the chemist's fee) plus 25 per cent. Similar examples could be continued *ad infinitum*, and the situation applies equally well to trusses and other appliances. I should have thought that payment for supplies and services given by duly qualified professional people would have exceeded the amount paid to unqualified persons for similar supplies and services, whereas the reverse seems to hold good. Perhaps some member of the Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee could explain why these discrepancies exist and why unqualified appliance contractors are paid at a higher rate than chemists.

B. LAWSON,
Alkington, Lancs

Con-C-quenses

SIR,—Surely Middlesex pharmacist is in error. The solution of Tab. C. Queen 21, 1 packet should be Tab. C-Quens 21, 1 packet. Tab. Sequens are in packet of twenty. Such nomenclature by the makers does not give any light relief. It produces confusion and error.

G. VERNON,
Tonbridge, Kent

SIR,—Referring to the prescription curiosity (C. & D., June 8, p. 521) may I point out that while C-Quens 21 consist of fourteen tablets of 0.1 mgm. of mestranol and seven of 0.1 mgm. of mestranol with 1.5 mgm. chloram-dione. SEQUENS consist of fifteen tablets of 80 microgm. of mestranol and five tablets of 80 microgm. of mestranol with 2 mgm. of chloram-dione. In other words C-Quens and Sequens are not the same thing. I have been in correspondence with the manufacturers about the possibility of confusion but they are unrepentant.

G. F. SHEPLEY, Chief Pharmacist,
St. Mary's Hospital,
Manchester, 13

[We have received letters on the same lines from many other correspondents.—EDITOR]

Candidates' Thanks

SIR,—May I through the courtesy of your columns thank the 1,749 electors who supported my policy in the recent Council election.

C. H. PRESTON ROBINSON,
Mansfield, Notts.

SIR,—May I express to the membership of the Pharmaceutical Society my heartfelt thanks for re-electing me to serve on the Council of the Society and for the many letters of congratulations I have received. With such a vote of confidence I will do all in my power to justify same.

MARY A. BURR



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How the Bill Fared in Committee

THE Medicines Bill as amended by Standing Committee D (H.M. Stationery Office, price 10s. 6d.) differs in a number of respects from the "original publication." Leaders of the various sections in pharmacy will need to go through the revised measure with the same attention to detail as in studying the original if they are to ascertain where further lobbying is called for before the Bill proceeds on its path to the Statute book.

In an attempt to avoid possible abuse of the privileges granted by the Bill, the exemptions from restrictions applicable to product and manufacturing licences, as applied to doctors, dentists, veterinary surgeons and veterinary practitioners, have been largely rewritten. A change has been made in Clause 13 so as to ensure fulfilment of the intention to allow doctors and dentists to import preparations without licence for administration to their patients.

As the Bill stands after revision, wholesalers' or manufacturers' licences may, under an additional power granted under 28(4)(d), be suspended or revoked if the licence holder "has without reasonable excuse failed to comply with" supplementary provisions demanded by the licensing authority.

The enforcement procedure when licences are amended (clause 39) has been strengthened and the clause partly rewritten to ensure that the information concerning the changes is disseminated.

A new Clause 42 grants the licensing authority power to include, in certificates issued to exporters, statements relating to medicinal products. Also new is a power granted to Ministers to restrict the size of packages of medicinal products offered in vending machines.

In the "supplementary provisions as to the registration of premises" it is now laid down that premises fees are to be "applicable for the purposes of the Pharmaceutical Society."

No longer allowed under section 83 is the defence that a trade mark infringement was necessary in order to comply with the Medicines Act. The Government, it will be recalled, was defeated when that item was voted upon in committee.

During the Committee stage members discussed at length the advertising of medicinal products and a number of amendments were introduced by Mr. Kenneth Robinson (Minister of Health) to provide "more precise and flexible powers."

A new clause enables the responsible Ministers to publish articles or journals.

Another Government amendment is to be seen in Clause 116 (3) of the new Bill, designed to ensure, as Mr. Robinson described it, "an exception from medicinal product status [and licensing arrangements] of the laboratory preparation before it is ready to be submitted for clinical or field trial."

Thus the Medicines Bill is evolving through the Parliamentary processes. The next step — The Report stage — will enable the various protagonists to ensure that their claims are repeated and, where possible, reinforced.

Immunisation for International Travel

ONE aspect of the export drive that has received little prominence is the large number of industrial executives who go overseas to win or hold their companies' markets. To them, as to many preparing to holiday abroad, the need to give their doctors adequate time to complete the necessary inoculations is not always obvious, and on occasion a timely word from pharmacists may be helpful. A minimum of twenty-eight days is needed to obtain basic immunity against typhoid, cholera, yellow fever, smallpox, tetanus and poliomyelitis, as shown by the following scheme:—

Day 1: Yellow fever, cholera (1), oral poliomyelitis (1)

Day 5: Smallpox, TABT (1) [Since the paratyphoid A and B components of TAB are responsible for some of the severer reactions, typhoid vaccine (monovalent) may be preferred. If so, tetanus vaccine will need to be given separately, at a different site]

Day 11: Cholera (2) [A second dose of oral polio-vaccine can be given on the eleventh day, thereby allowing three doses to be received by the patient within the twenty-eight days]

Day 13: Read result of smallpox vaccination

Day 28: TABT (2) Oral poliomyelitis (2) or (3)

From a legal point an international certificate of vaccination is required against only three infections (yellow fever, cholera and smallpox). Yellow fever vaccination is required for travellers to South America and tropical Africa. There is no well-defined geographical area for cholera vaccination but the infection is common in many parts of Asia and Africa. Smallpox vaccination is required in many countries. The international certificate for cholera vaccination is valid for six months, for smallpox for three years, and for yellow fever for ten years.

Legal requirements apart, there is a strong case for the other inoculations. Holiday makers to Spain and Portugal are usually advised to be vaccinated against the enteric fevers, typhoid and paratyphoid. Local and general reactions are not uncommon, especially in persons over the age of thirty-five, but may be reduced if the vaccine is injected in smaller dose intradermally, instead of subcutaneously. Alternatively, as mentioned above, the typhoid monovalent vaccine may be used. Travellers to the tropics are well advised to ask for oral poliovaccine. Younger, unvaccinated persons may never, as a result of the national campaign, have come in contact with poliomyelitis and hence may have no

circulating antibodies. Even those who were vaccinated with the original Salk vaccine may no longer have adequate immunity.

Since measles is a main cause of infant deaths in

the tropics, it is advisable to suggest vaccination in any unimmunised child who has not had the disease and who is going to a country where measles is known to be dangerous.

"OPEN SHOP"

An unscripted commentary on the problems of the pharmacist in general practice

By E. C. TENNER

IN one way or another I have now been connected with pharmacy for something over forty years, but I cannot recollect a time when we have been assailed, one could almost say assaulted, from all sides as we are at this moment in time. There may be, indeed there are, varied opinions on the matter, but the fact remains that the Society have lost their appeal to the House of Lords. Whatever effect this may have on pharmacists' ability to earn a living, it certainly cannot be to the eventual good of pharmacy as a profession. In the House of Commons we have come in for some pretty rough handling in the Committee stage of the Medicines Bill, and my own fear is that all we shall gain from this Bill is the doubtful privilege of having another batch of hampering regulations thrust upon us. The Minister has stated that the great majority of products at present distributed through non-pharmaceutical channels may be expected to be included in the general sale list, and pharmacists have certainly come in for a good deal of criticism—whether fair or unfair I leave others to judge. Our only champion would seem to be Mr. Laurie Pavitt who, when dealing with the general sale list, made a strong plea for the pharmacists' interests to be protected, and suggested to the committee, "We may have to see that the pharmacists are not faced with unfair competition." We have been accused of laxity in supervising the sale of medicines, and the suggestion has been made that 80 per cent. of sales are made without the knowledge of the pharmacist. That I strongly dispute, for I am certain that in nearly all those cases the pharmacist would be in the dispensary. Whilst perhaps out of sight, he would not have been out of hearing, and could quickly have intervened if he had felt it necessary to do so. When will authority realise that no one, whether he be M.P. or M.P.S., can be physically in two places at the same time. If the country needs a dispensing service, it must either pay us enough to free us from other business matters, or give us some form of protection in the non-dispensing activities.

Surely it is an Alice-in-Wonderland legislature which, at one and the same time is criticising us on the one hand and on the other proposing to allow birth-control pills to be issued, apparently without any form of qualified control by local authorities, presenting thus another direct threat to our livelihood. On a similar note we were recently, until the supply dried up, handling a fair number of prescriptions for measles vaccine. I have gathered from the manufacturers that the failure of supply was due to the Ministry's having requisitioned all available material for distribution through local health authorities. Through my Pharmaceutical Committee secretary I brought this matter to the attention of the Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee and regret to find that he received no satisfaction whatever. Much good it is for the National Pharmaceutical Union to exhort us to install refrigerators if the items we should be storing in them are to be denied to us and placed in the charge of some totally unqualified clerk in a local-authority office.

Bogged Down

The rural dispensing negotiations seem to be as bogged down as ever. Meanwhile it would appear that the doctors are consolidating their position. Indeed, unless there is some fairly spectacular quickening of activities

in this matter, the worry is whether there will be any rural pharmacies left by the time the Dispensing Committees commence their duties.

Mrs. Barbara Castle intends, it is understood, to refer proprietary medicines and probably toilet requisites to the Prices and Incomes Board. Apparently our meagre profits from these items are considered to be excessive. When I first read the Minister's suggestion I had a glance at my shelves, and it appeared to me that, even including purchase tax, the majority of proprietary medicines were at about double their pre-war price (some not even that), but that one's actual cash profit was not the double pre-war value. I wish that the same could be said of the items over which Mrs. Castle and her colleagues have control. I look forward to a recommendation by the Prices and Incomes Board that the actual cash profit on proprietary medicines should be at least doubled immediately.

I believe moves are actually being made to establish the Industrial Training Board for Distribution. The subject has really had little publicity, but let every contractor just wait until he receives his first "levy" demand. It will hit him with similar force to Henry Cooper's famous left hook. The vast majority of contractors will receive precisely nothing. It is clearly difficult to encourage one's three part-time married assistants, two of them over fifty years of age, to undertake any form of training, let alone attend day-release classes (even if they could be spared).

No Recompense

By the time these paragraphs are read contractors have had practical experience of the new prescription charges. Many proprietors and their assistants will have been insulted, perhaps even assaulted, by patients who resent the charges and who clearly feel that, because the chemist has been compelled to take the money from them, he and not the local medical practitioner is the proper target for their anger. For any such unpleasant experience the contractor will receive a pittance that will in no way recompense him for the service he has provided, and, as a result of the charges, his income will be reduced. Whilst dealing with these charges, short-handed perhaps because of staff holidays, the contractor is exhorted to waste further non-existent time in "N.P." labelling of all prescriptions. Also from the Ministry comes the suggestion that a start should be made towards using metric bottles, which will in most situations be only part filled. That will subject the chemist to further suspicions and to accusations of giving short measure. Contractors are expected to use more of their non-existent time in explaining that part filling, and at the same time ascertain whether the patient has a plastic spoon in good condition or whether a new one should be supplied. I anticipate that prescription-sorting will in future take about three times as long as in the past, and would suggest that any contractor who wishes to sleep well at night would do better to undertake the task personally and not leave it to an assistant as before. Otherwise he may find he is missing a lot of half-crowns. No actual sleep will be gained in that way, for the contractor will probably find that the only time he has left in to sort the prescriptions is time when he should have been sleeping.

Do our masters not realise that there actually is a last straw that breaks the camel's back?

SEVENTY YEARS IN DRUG TRADE

Mr. Hugh Lattimer recalls incidents from his long career

TO have served the drug and chemical industry for seventy years must be a record, even in an industry that has been notable for its long-service employees. Such, however, is the achievement of Hugh Lattimer, 62 Woodcote Hurst, Epsom, Surrey, who celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday recently and is still in business supplying crude drugs and expressed oils to manufacturers in the home market.

Mr. Lattimer began as a junior clerk in Henry A. Thompson & Son on December 31, 1897, receiving 10s. a week for his labours. He was one of two employees retained when, eighteen months later, the firm was merged with Wilfords Francis & Butler. Further mergers and acquisitions took place and Mr. Lattimer's responsibilities correspondently increased.

After about ten years with the company Mr. Lattimer decided to make a change and took a temporary job with Allen & Hanburys, Bethnal Green, where his skill at copperplate writing was put to use. He later became assistant secretary for Dakin Bros., Ltd., manufacturing chemists with large export interests; the company subsequently amalgamated with Wright Layman and Umney, Ltd. After being with that company for about thirteen years, during which time he studied accountancy, he was offered an important position with the Indo-Burma Co., a company with big trading interests in India and Burma and the buying agents for a number of important pharmaceutical houses. Large quantities of galenicals, chemicals, surgical dressings, etc., were bought from British suppliers and packed and shipped by the company on every regular boat leaving London. He recalls a visit from Mr. Alec Nathan (who founded Glaxo) to ask if it would be possible to sell Glaxo baby food in India. Mr. Lattimer suggested, and it was agreed, that samples should be sent out to both India and Burma to check on the keeping properties of the food. The Glaxo organisation had at that time had no experience in packing for export, so Mr. Lattimer purchased the barley straw, sawdust and cases himself, had them delivered to the company's premises "somewhere near Paddington" and supervised the packing for those first shipments. The food, he says, "went like a bomb" and was a useful line until Messrs. Glaxo started their own distribution in the subcontinent.

Pile-up

Importing was another essential part of Mr. Lattimer's activities and he recalls making an arrangement with a shipper in Syria to send five tons of liquorice root to London every month. The contract started in 1913 and all went well until the war began in August 1914, when supplies were cut off through lack of shipping. Unknown to him however, the shipper had continued to send the root monthly to the Syrian docks, where the consignments accumulated until a ship turned up in 1915 and took on board the whole quantity, which by then amounted to 80 tons. However, he had no difficulty in disposing of the consignment. Shortly afterwards he attempted to join the Army, but failed the medical test, being grossly underweight. His doctor prescribed one quart of milk daily and "plenty of fresh herrings." The herrings were reasonably acceptable to him but not so the quantity of milk. However, he managed to add two stones to his weight in six months and passed the medical at the second attempt. On demobilisation his former job had vanished with the international trade, so he decided to go into business on his own account, taking over an established firm—A. J. Ripplin in Harp Lane, Great Tower Street. Building up the business necessitated extensive travels in the United Kingdom and Ireland. On one

occasion he was approached by a Midland's pharmaceutical manufacturer for a supply of good rectified spirit. At the time it appears it was difficult to obtain material that would comply with the British Pharmacopoeia. The potential buyer refused to name his supplier but Mr. Lattimer knew a Mr. Bertram Watney (no connection with the brewers) who had a distillery in Wandsworth. Mr. Watney did little business with the pharmaceutical industry at that time but gave him samples which when analysed, showed the spirit to be below the standard required. Mr. Watney reacted by bringing experts from Scotland to modernise the equipment, and after that was done the spirit proved as acceptable to customers as it became financially lucrative to Mr. Lattimer, who held the selling agency until, at their third attempt, Distillers Co. persuaded Mr. Watney to sell them his distillery. Another agency, that of Felling's zinc oxide, was held by Mr. Lattimer for forty years until 1959.

Second Time

During the famous Sunday night incendiary attack on the City of London on December 29, 1940, the Harp Lane offices and warehouse were totally destroyed. For a second time in his career (the first time was in his first job in High Holborn), Mr. Lattimer arrived for work to find no building. For a period he shared offices with another company, then obtained offices near Waterloo Station which he occupied until the London County Council required the site for development in association with the Festival Hall area. By that time rents in the City had rocketed and so, like many of his compatriots he decided to desert not only the Mincing Lane area but the Metropolis to carry on business in the comparative peace of the countryside—in his case his Surrey home.

NEW BOOKS

Innovation and the Balance of Payments: the Experience in the Pharmaceutical Industry

GEORGE TEELING SMITH (editor). *Office of Health Economics*, 162 Regent Street, London, W.1. 9½ x 6½ in. Pp. 99. 21s.

THE book is a published version of the 1967 series of evening lecture meetings arranged by O.H.E. (see *C. & D.*, January 28, 1967, p. 337; March 4, p. 197; March 18, p. 265; and April 8, p. 337). The first two papers describe the experience of two pharmaceutical companies, both winners of the Queen's Award to Industry. The two succeeding papers describe the patent system in five countries, the next two the commercial aspect—pricing, brand names, promotion, etc. The final paper deals with the international financial structure of the industry. A foreword by C. Freeman (director, unit for the study of science policy, University of Sussex), comments upon the strengths and weaknesses of the arguments of the authors. Mr. Freeman does not concede that the pharmaceutical industry has made an outstanding contribution to exports and to the U.K. balance of payments, asserting that the rate of growth of exports of competitors, especially Germany, France and Switzerland has been much faster than the British. He asserts that the British share in world drug exports (about 13 per cent.), is about the same as the British share in world exports of manufacturers in general and the proportion exported (about 27 per cent.) is substantially lower than for many branches of the engineering industry and for other science-based industries. He thinks it not unreasonable to expect export sales at 40-50 per cent. of the total. While accepting the contention of some of the authors of the papers that there is a close connection between innovation and exports, he would welcome more supporting evidence than was provided. Mr. Freeman also accepts the views that the industry is entitled to more sympathetic understanding of its problems and achievements and the innovation is risky, expensive and difficult.

BRANCH EVENTS

HULL

Visit to New Centre

THE annual meeting of Hull Chemists' Association and Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was held recently at the postgraduate medical centre, Hull Royal Infirmary with Mr. F. N. Harrison in the chair, and thirty-one members attending. Venue for the meeting had been changed to the new centre, so that members could see the facilities available to them and to the branch, including a dining room where pharmacists can enjoy lunch at modest cost, in company with doctors and dentists, on two days per week. A lecture theatre complete with full projection facilities is available for branch meetings. The chairman outlined the position to members in his report, and thanked them for their support during his year of office, with special thanks to the committee.

PLYMOUTH

Bees

BEES, said MR. D. S. WHITE (a branch member) to a recent meeting of Plymouth Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, were one of the most numerous and widely-distributed forms of insect life. There were about 100 species comprising basically two classes, the solitary bees and the social or communal types. The solitary type was exemplified in the leaf cutting bee, which cut leaves into about $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. pieces, rolled the pieces into a crack or hole, laid an egg and died soon after. The male died on mating. With that type there was no overlapping generation. With the communal type, division of labour was found, there being representatives of two generations. The queen survived to see the new generation. The bumble bee was a semi-social bee. There were about 250 varieties of varying colour and size. Bees had been known since prehistoric times, the first records being on paintings in cave dwellings, which showed men robbing nests and eating honeycombs. Fossil records went back about thirty million years. Mr. White then exhibited skips or hives, honey, etc.

ISLE OF WIGHT

Medicinal and Poisonous Plants

ADDRESSING the Isle of Wight Branch of the Society recently on poisonous plants, MR. W. BINNS (senior lecturer in pharmacognosy, Portsmouth College of Technology) first defined them: a poisonous plant was one that, if any part (seed, root, fruit, etc.) was ingested, caused a severe departure from normal health. The pharmacist was called upon to be able to advise on the identification of poisonous plants and fungi, and to help doctors in their treatment of plant poisoning, especially in hospital practice. Before the 1939-45 war pharmacists had been trained to recognise a certain number of plants, and that training had needed to be revived in the past few years. The Society had produced its series of colour transparencies of poisonous plants and fungi and a book on the subject: a

copy should be in every household. Mr. Binns then showed about 160 transparencies of poisonous plants and fungi and described where, according to Townshend's "Flora of the Isle of Wight, 1904," the Isle of Wight Natural History Society's *Proceedings* of 1950; and Dr. Bromfield's "Flora Vectensis," 1856, they had been found in the Isle of Wight. The three plants that caused most poisonings were cuckoo pint, laburnum and woody nightshade. Surprisingly, he said, laburnum seeds were frequently eaten by children and even the flowers had been chewed. The chief pharmacist of a Portsmouth Hospital had had to deal with seventy-five to 100 cases of poisoning annually (not all serious)—an average of five weekly during the summer. MR. MACHIN (president, Isle of Wight Natural History Society) thanked the Branch for inviting his own Society to the lecture and moved a vote of thanks to the speaker; then the Branch chairman (MR. W. P. HOGAN) presented to Dr. B. Orr (a member of the management committee, post-graduate medical centre) a copy of Miss P. M. North's book, "Poisonous Plants and Fungi," and a set of the Pharmaceutical Society's transparencies of poisonous plants and fungi.

SHEFFIELD

Joint Meeting on Sainsbury

SHEFFIELD Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society recently held a joint meeting with Chesterfield and Rotherham Branches and the local division of the British Medical Association to discuss the "Sainsbury Report." PROFESSOR R. KILPATRICK (professor of clinical pharmacetics, Sheffield University) expressed the doctor's debt to the pharmaceutical industry. "But," he said "the industry needs to have as many drugs taken by as many people as possible. This is the converse of the doctor's needs." After dealing with the omissions in the Report he dealt with the safety of drugs and asked if, on the evidence now available, chloramphenicol really did cause aplastic anaemia or amine oxidase inhibitors jaundice. He then argued for retrospective studies in place of prospective analysis. MR. F. W. GRIFFIN (managing director, The British Drug Houses, Ltd., and vice-chairman, Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry) pointed out that some parts of the Report had been included in the Medicines Bill. He pointed out the dangers to pharmaceutical exports of implementing all the recommendations of the Sainsbury Committee, especially if patenting were abolished. The Macgregor Classification was not universally acceptable because of local custom and preference for certain forms of treatment. MR. J. B. GROSSET (then a Council member) underlined many points made by Mr. Griffin about the industry's research record and consistent reductions in price as products became more widely used. He asked for the saving of man-hours to industry to be taken in to consideration when

the cost of the Health Service was criticised. Mr. Grosset concluded by remarking that different brands of drugs did not always have the same pharmaceutical effect. DR. A. A. GILDERLEEVE (a local general practitioner) said there seemed to be little in the Sainsbury report to affect the ordinary general practitioner. The pharmaceutical industry was not a "big bad wolf" as some politicians made out and "without medical representatives the practice of medicine as he understood it would be impossible . . . the medical profession is not as gullible as some people make out. . . . It is the general public who influence prescribing.

CHELTENHAM

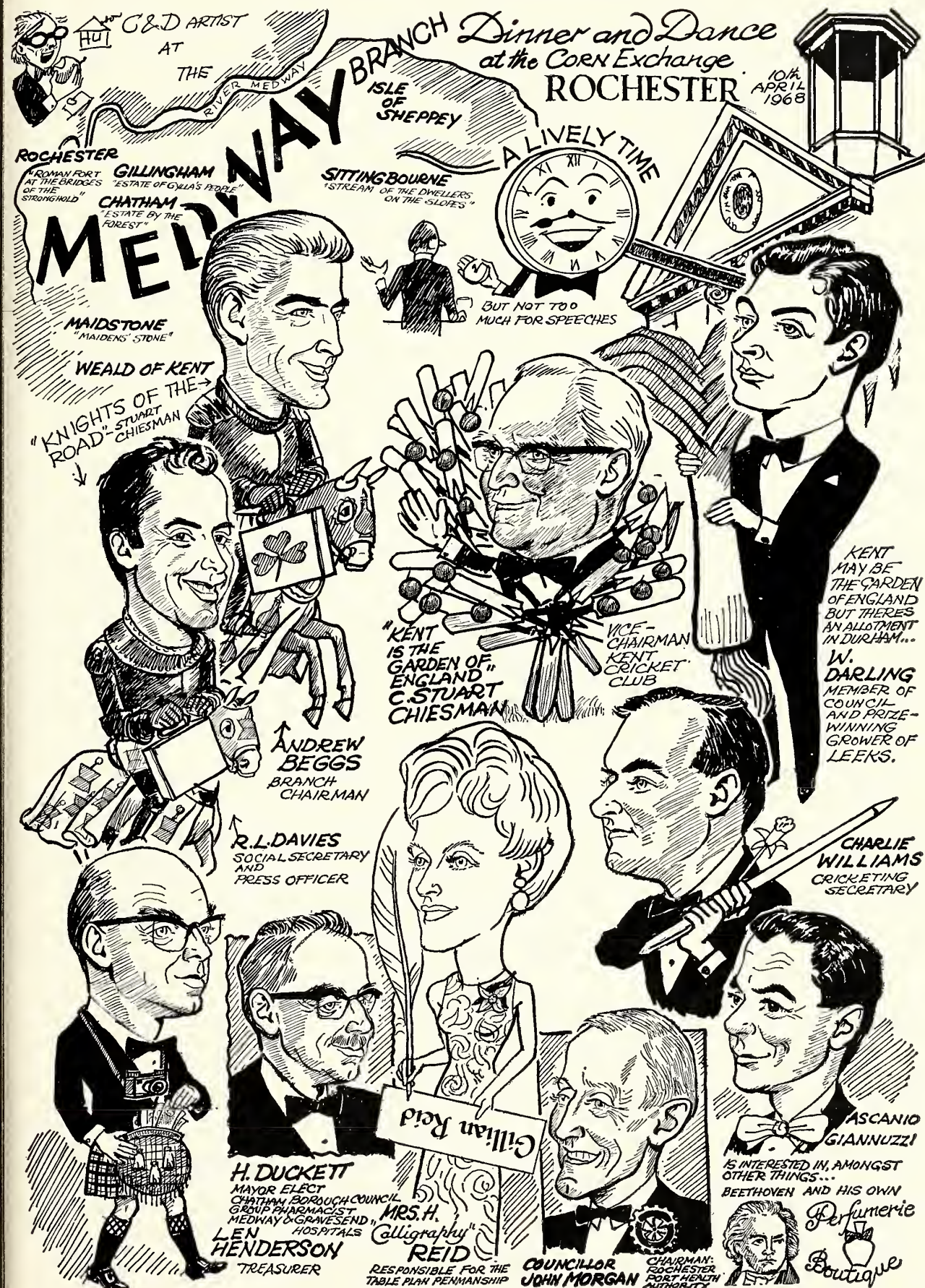
Annual Dinner

OVER 100 pharmacists and representatives of wholesale and retail companies attended the recent annual dinner held by Cheltenham Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society. The mayor of Cheltenham (ALDERMAN BISHOP) who proposed the toast of the Pharmaceutical Society coupled with the Cheltenham Branch said that the town was well served by its chemists many of whom served the town outside their profession. That was well illustrated by the sad loss to pharmacy and the town by the death of Mr. Talvan Rees. Introducing Mr. H. Steinman (Society's treasurer), the branch chairman (MR. E. GILLILAND) asked his wife to present a cheque for £150 for Society's Benevolent Fund. Thanking the chairman and members MR. STEINMAN commented that Cheltenham Branch had been "at the top of the list" for many years in its donations to the Benevolent Fund. The Branch had also been the first to start a campaign for collection of unwanted drugs for destruction in the "Medicines with Care" campaign, a lead which had been followed nationally. The mayor's reference to Mr. Rees gave Mr. Steinman the opportunity to acknowledge publicly on behalf of the Executive of the National Pharmaceutical Union and the Council of the Society the tremendous work for pharmacy Mr. Rees had done. The treasurer advocated a warm welcome by chemists for the Medicines Bill. "The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. Gilliland. Mr. C. C. Graham replied, a draw in aid of the Benevolent Fund raised £30.

EPSOM AND SUTTON

Dermatology

A COMBINED meeting of the Epsom and Sutton Branches of the Pharmaceutical Society and the National Pharmaceutical Union was addressed recently by MR. J. W. HADGRAFT (chief pharmacist, Royal Free Hospital) on "Pharmaceutical Aspects of Dermatology." Mr. Hadgraft, who illustrated his talk by slides, discussed the place of topical therapy in dermatological treatment with particular reference to the formulation of skin preparations. He dealt also with the influence of the vehicle on skin penetration and the use of occlusive dressings in treatment with topical steroids.



Drugs of Dependence

MEDICAL OFFICER'S RESERVATIONS ON TREATMENT CENTRES

DOUBTS on whether the newly-established treatment centres for the treatment of addicts were expressed at a recent Pharmaceutical Society evening meeting in London. Dr. A. J. Wood (first assistant medical officer, Bristol Public Health Department) also said that in a sense the hospital based psychiatrist was not the best person to deal with the situation. He would prefer that general practitioners could give treatment at centres away from hospitals. Dr. Wood explained that he was neither a psychiatrist nor connected with the active treatment of addicts. His interest stemmed from a belief that drug dependence was not just a problem posed by the type and number of drugs now available but was a reflection of an uneasy society, and its effect on the individual.

People sought from drugs something they did not find in their ordinary lives — the peace of sleep, which they hoped to mimic with the aid of sedatives, the activity and wakefulness of enthusiasm which they hoped the stimulants would provide, or the fascination of life which seemed possible only by recourse to the psychedelic drugs. Some sought comfort as a substitute for friendship, others the detachment from reality provided by heroin. Others sought to escape from a society they tried, but failed, to alter.

A friend had recently described addicts as "a few wishy-washy types." It should be realised that society had hurt such people pretty severely as a rule. When it stepped in to help by trying to prevent them hurting themselves even more was that a sort of social recompense? Or an effort to relieve its own guilt?

Abuse of Alcohol

Just as squalor and opium went hand in hand in many parts of the East, so poverty and alcohol abuse were historically linked in the West. It was always difficult to sort out the cause and effect relationship between alcohol and social and personal disintegration; and for that matter it was equally hard to define the relationship between modern drugs and the personalities abusing them.

In numerical terms alcoholism, with an estimated 350,000 addicts was this country's largest problem. In France the problem might be up to eight times as great. The modern scourge was of course road traffic accidents, and various surveys have shown that between 30 and 50 per cent. of all accidents were in some way associated with the use of alcohol.

The other naturally occurring intoxicants were opium, cannabis, coca, and a few minor ones of limited availability. When used in their natural form, in a society that had grown to accept them as part of their culture, the effect of those drugs was not too different from that of alcohol, and up to the 18th century there was little widespread abuse and exploitation. But there had been at least four significant

changes since the 19th century that had made an increase in the use and abuse of addictive drugs almost inevitable.

1. The active principles isolated from the naturally occurring intoxicants, and more potent derivatives synthesised; (2) a vast increase in international trade and travel; (3) the hypodermic syringe was invented; (4) a vast increase in the variety of drugs and treatments available for mental illness, which meant that many people with mental disturbance who would have been considered incurable or beyond help in the past, were now able to live reasonably successfully within the community.

In 1803 morphine had been isolated from the twenty-odd alkaloids in opium, and morphinism quickly became popular both for medical and social purposes. When Alexander Wood invented the hypodermic syringe in 1853 it had been sincerely believed that injecting the drug would not "give rise to an appetite for morphia" because it was not administered orally. As a cruel twist of fate Dr. Wood's wife had been the first person recorded as dying as a result of addiction from hypodermic administration.

Heroin Hailed as a Cure

Most people were squeamish about pricking themselves with hypodermic needles, so it could be imagined with what acclaim a new substance was received that cured morphinism and also gave pleasure when used as snuff. The newly synthesised powder had been christened heroin, meaning pleasure, and it had been hailed as a cure for morphinism simply because when using it, morphine was no longer necessary.

Towards the end of the 19th century morphinism and heroin-taking were no longer the prerogative of the rich and upper social class, and their abuse and that of opium at last giving rise to considerable concern. In 1909 America had been so worried about the social devastation that opium was causing in the Philippines that she called the first international commission at Shanghai to attempt to control production, distribution and use of opium. That commission's recommendations formed the basis of the first international convention at The Hague in 1912, at which the signatories promised to try to limit the use of opium to medical needs only, and take the necessary steps to that end.

Accordingly, in 1914 the United States passed the Harrison Act to restrict the use of opium and its derivatives to *bona fide* medical treatment. But the Supreme Court decided, after some unfortunate test cases, that providing drugs for addicts did not constitute medical treatment. The effect was to make it impossible for addicts to get any but illicit drugs. Hence they were turned into criminals simply because they had to satisfy their drug requirements. That attitude had prevailed in the United States for the last

fifty years and had produced a highly organised, intensely powerful, black market, a phenomenon not yet witnessed in Great Britain.

Britain, on the other hand, did not sign The Hague convention until after the 1914-18 war, and brought in the appropriate legislation in the first Dangerous Drugs Act of 1920.

In 1926 the Rolleston Committee reviewed the prescribing of heroin and morphine and decided that prescriptions to addicts *could be* regarded as legitimate treatment. Here was the key — in the United States the addict had to be treated as a criminal, in Great Britain (and most other European countries) addiction was viewed as an illness on a par with alcoholism.

In 1920 the League of Nations had taken upon itself the rôle of co-ordinating world efforts to suppress the abuse of opium and other dangerous drugs. The Advisory Council on the Taking of Opium and other Dangerous Drugs was set up, and remained responsible for organising international control until the 1939-45 war. In 1946 the League of Nations was replaced by the United Nations organisation which received specialist advice from the World Health Organisation and co-ordinated international activity through the Economic and Social Council which, in turn, had several advisory bodies, one of which was the Central Opium Board. That Board received the annual returns of manufacture and use of dangerous drugs from all signatories to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1953, which combined all previous international agreements and conventions and became the one and only United Nations statute for the world-wide control of dangerous drugs.

First Braine Report

The Dangerous Drugs Act had been amended and consolidated five times up to 1951, and then, in 1961, came the first Braine Report reviewing and revising the recommendations of the Rolleston Committee. The whole tone of that ill-fated report was "there is no problem that cannot be controlled by existing legislation and no evidence that addiction to dangerous drugs is increasing in this country." The tragedy was that the Report came out a year too early. The ink was hardly dry when there came to light a new and deep concern concerning rise in number of teenage addicts. By 1964 the Minister of Health had been compelled to re-convene the Committee to "consider in the light of recent experience whether the advice given in 1961 about doctor prescribing the addictive drugs needed revising and, if so, to make recommendations."

The figures revealed in the new report were appalling and the forty addicts in their teens in 1964, revealed in that report, had now risen to something like 600 or 700 for 1967 — although the figures were not yet complete, for several reasons.

Dr. Wood went on to discuss some of the Braine Committee's recommendations and how they were forming the basis of a new national policy. Notification of addicts had come into being on February 22 and had resulted in a vast increase in the total of under-twenties known to the Home Office. There had previously been an unofficial register of patients receiving excessive doses of the Dangerous Drugs, who came to light from routine police checks at pharmacies. But those checks revealed nothing of the "second ring" of addicts receiving supplies illegally from the excess quantities that general practitioners were "conned" into prescribing.

An addict looked upon registration with a G.P. as a symbol of defeat; an admission that at last his compulsive need for heroin is too much for him to finance privately. He would probably avoid registration for some two to six months and get his drugs from a growing black market at £1 per grain.

But with the establishment of treatment centres on April 16, another Braine recommendation, "one of the greatest experiments of our time" was being attempted. They were centred on psychiatric hospitals and the mental health departments of the teaching hospitals.

Evading Responsibility

The power to prescribe heroin and cocaine to addicts had been withdrawn from G.P.'s and only licensed doctors, usually consultant psychiatrists and their deputies, would be allowed to prescribe it. Success or failure would depend almost entirely upon the attitude of the consultant in charge. It was common knowledge that not all doctors were sympathetic to the problems of the addict. The simplest way to evade the responsibility of treatment was to provide insufficiently acceptable facilities forcing addicts to go elsewhere. That would happen promised Dr. Wood. Those who looked upon addicts as an administrative nuisance and an inconvenience to the hospital system would find their work load light, and would be quoted in the Press as authorities stating that "in their experience there is not much of a problem." Whereas those who were really concerned about teenagers slowly killing themselves would find themselves burdened with an almost intolerable work load — too big to handle properly.

Treatment centres could be made to fail quite easily. It depended on the attitude of the hospital boards and boards of governors and the influence they exerted upon their staff. In a sense the hospital based psychiatrist was not the best person to deal with the situation. He was an authoritarian figure, a symbol that the addict disliked. The tragedy of restricted prescribing was that the great reservoir of sympathetic manpower — prescribing G.P.'s — would be wasted.

Results achieved by even sympathetic medical treatment were poor, but where improvements did occur they stemmed from a carefully nurtured personal relationship. Dr. Wood had come across no

results at all from doctors who were unsympathetic or who treated addiction from a cold academic standpoint.

Doctors who felt deeply concerned should be able to co-operate with local statutory and voluntary organisations and set up a treatment or maintenance centre away from the hospital environment, in surroundings that did not seem foreign to the addict and did not frighten him away into the hands of those more interested in profit than life. There appeared to be nothing in the 1967 Act or regulations to prevent that happening and provided there were safeguards against abuse and adequate records and liaison, the system would be more successful and less expensive than a service based entirely on hospitals.

One controversial problem that the Braine Committee did not have to consider was the educational aspects of drug abuse and dependence. How to cope with the anxiety and fear of the older generations, how to warn young people of the dangers and problems without stimulating their curiosity excessively or, worse still, exaggerating the case and inviting ridicule.

Three Steps in Education

Whether tackled on a local or a national level there seemed three steps to be taken. Firstly, educate the educators — teachers, health and social workers of all sorts, youth leaders, magistrates — all those whose work brought them into contact with young people to understand the problem, its roots, development, and effects, so they were equipped to pass on information, in an acceptable way.

Second stage would be to provide adequate reliable information in an attractive and digestible form to anyone within the community (parents, students and any others who inquired). The mass media had a vital part to play but posters, features or documentaries on highly emotive topics could create problems, unless they were designed extremely carefully or were delayed until a certain basic level of understanding has been achieved in the community.

The third stage was the state of affairs when enlightenment had succeeded in removing harmful anxiety. When drug dependence could be included in the ordinary social topics covered in every school and group programme and viewed in its right context on a par with the other social problems.

When the meeting was opened for discussion, PROFESSOR J. W. FAIRBAIRN, school of pharmacy, University of London, referred to Dr. Wood's remarks about new methods of treatment through the hospitals. Did he really mean that the new scheme was unlikely to succeed because of the hospital environment and did he favour treatment by specially trained general practitioners in a more private situation? DR. WOOD replied that the hospital environment could create problems for the "addict personality;" and that the intimate atmosphere of a surgery or a church hall type of centre had far more chance of success.

PROFESSOR A. D. MACDONALD (Man-

chester) said that, having served on the Braine Committee, he felt compelled to say a word in its defence. The Committee's report had been ready for publication in 1960. As far as they could ascertain from doctors, the police and social workers, there was no evidence of any serious increase up to 1960. But at that time the Committee had tried to look carefully into the question of education. They had agreed with Dr. Wood that there was a great deal of ill-directed education going on. When the Committee had been called together again in 1964, Lord Braine had been emphatic that they had only one duty—to look into the position of the prescribing of heroin and cocaine. Education was excluded from the Committee's terms of reference.

"Phoenix Houses"

Professor Macdonald had been favourably impressed by one of the hospital clinics in London. It was not fair to say that consultant psychiatrists were unsympathetic; they had been carefully selected and fully briefed. American visitors now had a more hopeful outlook about the treatment of dependence and the future of the "junky." That was due in part to the treatment of addicts in "phoenix houses" directed by recovered junkies. The cure rate was about 50 per cent. — a fantastic improvement on the 3, 4 and 5 per cent. claimed by Lexington. Small British institutions not run and organised by recovered junkies could learn from America. Finally, should more be done about the alcoholics who were more numerous, and in whom the prognosis was less grim than in heroin addicts.

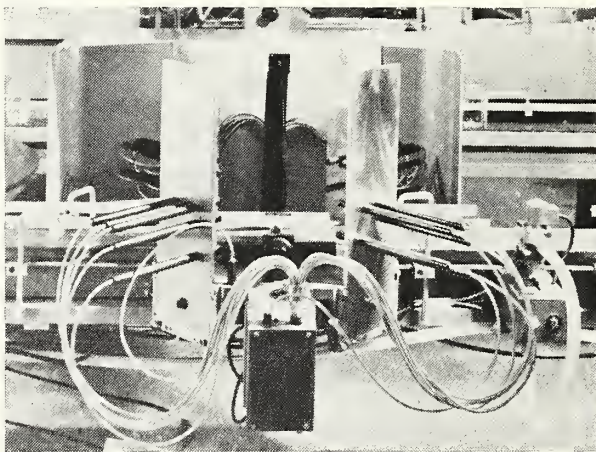
DR. WOOD agreed that many hospital consultants were sympathetic; he had said only that some were not. More should be done for the alcoholic; but alcohol was not an acutely killing drug as heroin was to the under twenties. There were not enough cured addicts in Britain to run such centres as phoenix houses. He told DR. K. R. CAPPER, that cannabis had dropped out of medical use because its results were so unpredictable.

MR. J. W. HADGRAFT, London, who asked whether it was wrong to recognise a difference between "soft" and "hard" drugs in law and whether amphetamines should be treated as dangerous drugs was told that the Dangerous Drugs Act was not based on pharmacological effects but for administrative convenience. Cannabis had been included at the request of the Geneva Convention. The terms "soft" and "hard" indicated a factor in the progression by young people from one to another. Amphetamines should not be classed as dangerous drugs in the addicting sense.

DR. G. E. FOSTER, Dartford, asked whether new synthetic analgesics ought not to be restricted in some way until proved to be non-addicting. DR. WOOD said that fierce testing of new drugs by the World Health Organisation and the U.S. Food and Drugs Administration and tests on addicts at Lexington gave adequate guidance on the likelihood of addiction.

MACHINERY AND PLANT

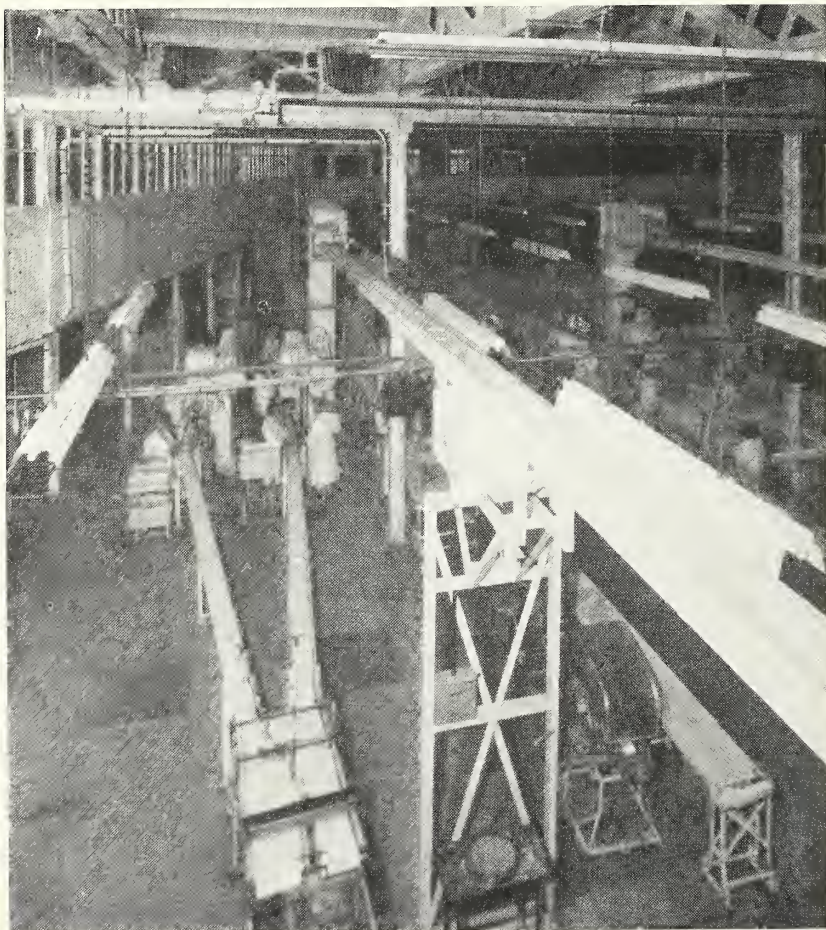
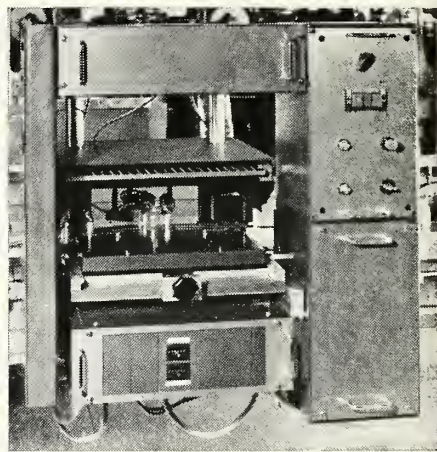
Safety Valve — Comet Marine Pumps, Ltd., 1B London Road, Bromley, Kent, have taken over the manufacturing and selling rights of the Sergeant safety valve. The valve, described as a unique safety device, is suitable equally for vacuum or pressure and requires no ancillary aids. A new patent covering the provision of a cushioned valve return is being incorporated. With a minimum of routine maintenance, the valve is guaranteed to operate indefinitely at a preset pressure.



Left, the Emhart Preslector hottle-inspection machine. Right, the Emhart Check Master.

Improved Tablet Counter.—In line with the trend to ever more stringent cleaning requirements for pharmaceutical equipment, Merrill Machinery Co. (Pennsalt, Ltd., Tower Works, Doman Road, Camberley, Surrey), have intro-

duced a new version of the model 72-39 Merrill tablet counter. The new model allows dismantling in 20 minutes or less (300 per cent. faster than the earlier versions) and can fill up to 100 containers per minute, each with 1,000 tablets. By employing precision-machined slats instead of counting by length



AUTOMATION AT A SOAP WORKS: A general view of a section of the department of Cussons Sons & Co., Ltd., Kersal Vale Manchester, 7, where Imperial Leather and other soaps are moulded into tablets. "Noodles" of soap travel along the twin conventional conveyors on the left to the moulding machines. From that point the surplus soap after moulding, "flashings," are picked up by specialised Tiptrak bucket conveyors, which travel horizontally and vertically without spillage. At the head of the Tiptrak, about 18 ft. above floor level, the "flashings" return by overhead conventional conveyor, seen prominently in the photograph, for reprocessing thereby eliminating waste and ensuring maximum productivity. The Tiptrak bucket conveyor is manufactured exclusively in Great Britain by Uniroyal, Ltd., Castle Mile, Edinburgh, 3.

or by column, the unit accurately fills any desired number of tablets into each package. The counter can also handle odd or irregular shaped products, and can fill into bottles, drums, transparent bags or boxes.

For Bottle Inspection.—Bottle inspection equipment recently introduced by Emhart (U.K.), Ltd., Crompton Road, Wheatley, Doncaster, Yorks, includes the Emhart Preslector, type SE 218, which rejects mis-shapen round-glass containers, "leaners," offset finishes, fallen ware, and containers too small in height, gauging by means of six pairs of light beams focused on the container. Another unit, the Emhart Check Master, rejects glass containers with horizontal and vertical-finish faults, its optic and electronic system differentiating between reflections coming from mould seams or finish lugs and finish checks. When a faulty container is detected, the electronic logic actuates a pneumatic reject device, and a counter system counts total inspected and rejected ware. The inspection heads are locked and positioned into a high precision drilled set-up plate for which the ware handling device acts as a support. Check inspection heads act basically as holders into which fibre optics are plugged in for both illumination and signal pick up. The price of the Emhart Check Master ex works Zurich, is £5,400.

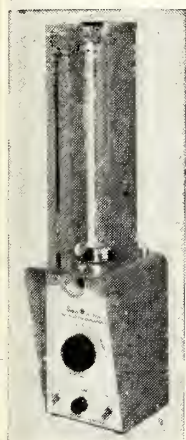
MANUFACTURERS' ACTIVITIES

South Africans Visit Works.

Twenty members of Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce paid a one-day visit to I.C.I. Pharmaceuticals Division's headquarters at Alderley Park, Cheshire, on June 5, during a month's goodwill and trade mission to Britain. Head of the deputation was Mr. W. R. Stephens (managing director, I.C.I. (South Africa), Ltd.). The visitors toured the research laboratories and factory at Macclesfield.

INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS

Melting-point Apparatus — Techne (Cambridge), Ltd., announce the availability of the

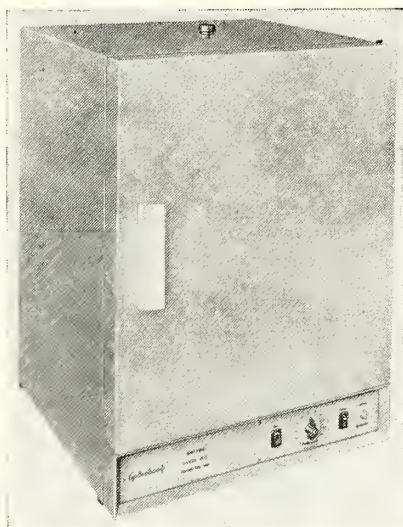


Thomas - Hoover Unimelt capillary melting-point apparatus developed by Dr. John R. E. Hoover of the United States. The equipment is designed for fast reproducible determinations of melting points using glass capillary tubes. It incorporates an oil bath (not a heating block) and can determine melting points up to 350°C. The compact self contained apparatus is safe in use, the removable bath being totally enclosed except for observation port. Other features are: Rapid lagless heating (350°C. in 6½ minutes); rapid cooling (300°C. to 150°C. in 11 minutes) and excellent visibility (capillaries are illuminated by an adjustable internal lamp). Samples are packed in capillary tubes using vibrator. A 4-p. technical leaflet describing the equipment is available from the company.

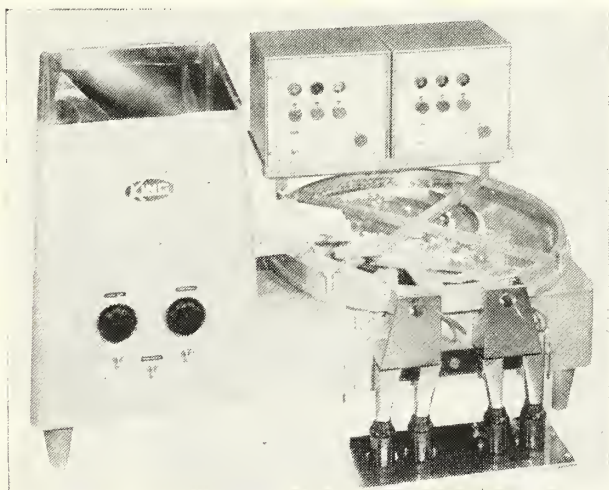
Electronic Tablet-counting Machines. — C. E. King & Sons, Ltd., 41 London Street, Chertsey, Surrey, have made major modifications to their three electronic tablet counting devices, resulting in higher output. The photo-cell is now mounted at the side of the light source, and a small mirror is fitted on to the head casting, providing a wider registration area. As an alternative, the company offer a new high-speed registration device that will handle small tablets at speeds up to 10,000 tablets a minute. The feeding mechanism has also been improved by strengthening the tablet guide rails and fitting a clear Perspex strip between

them. The strip is adjustable to suit the tablet thickness and ensures a continuous throughput of tablets.

Ovens and Incubators. — A. Gallenkamp & Co., Ltd., Technico House, Christopher Street, London, E.C.2, recently introduced a range of "square-



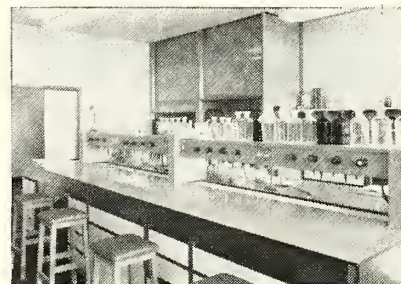
line" ovens and incubators up to 7.5 cu. ft. capacity and finished in glossy silver-grey hammertone enamel. Interiors are of stainless steel with removable chromium-plated steel-grid



shelves, and doors are fitted with quickly replaceable gaskets and held closed by concealed pull-to-open catches. All models are conveyed by quiet-

running fans that blow air over the heaters and induce forced ventilation. All controls, including main and safety thermostats, are mounted on a chassis that allows for simple maintenance and ease of access. Accessories for all twenty-six models include basket shelves for rapid loading and door mounting dial temperature indicators. Ovens can be supplied with a door with double-glazed window. Heavy duty versions conform to British Standards 2648 and 3421.

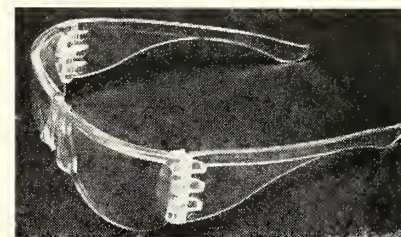
Repetitive Dispensing. Grey of Norwich, Instruments Division, D. R. Grey, Ltd., Carrow Hill, Norwich, NOR 61B, draw attention to their versatile automatic dispenser, Lumix VI, that delivers volumes between 0.3 ml and 6.3 mls. The dispenser can be quickly adjusted to the required setting and may even be used to dispense caustic alkalis and acids at elevated temperatures. The unique design of the valve mechanism avoids problems caused by sticking plungers when distributing solutions of salts and ensures an accuracy of fill to within 0.2 per cent. An illustrated brochure is available on request from the company.



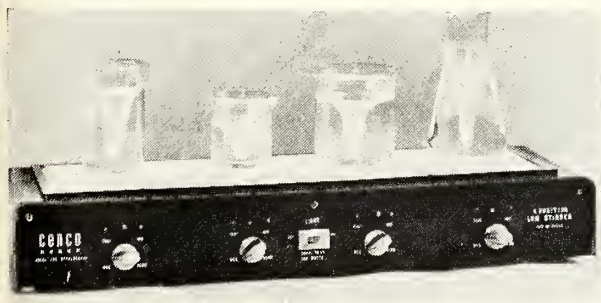
RESISTANT SURFACE TO A LABORATORY BENCH: Solid-grade decorative laminate Arborite shown in use as a bench surface in a new laboratory built for Pfizer Group at Sandwich, Kent. The Arborite used is ½ in. thick with a grey Irish-linen surface that is resistant to most chemicals.

EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES

Polycarbonate Eyeshields. — Safety Products, Ltd., Redhill, Surrey, add a new general-purpose eyeshield to their range. A Tough-spec polycarbonate eyeshield has been designed to protect against high-speed flying particles, metal splash, acids, etc., industrial and laboratory workers and others. The shield is claimed virtually indestructible even under extreme heat and sub-zero



temperature and give maximum all-round protection with wrap-around lens and wide sidearms. A good fit is ensured by the smooth moulded sidearms and multi-fit nosebridge.



END POINTS SHARPENED: The Lum 4-position stirrer, each vessel illuminated from below, facilitates judgment in reactions whose end-points are shown by a colour or other visual change. Makers are Cenco, Konijnberg 40, Breda, Holland.

TRADE REPORT

The prices given are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. Various charges have to be added whereby values are augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock.

LONDON, JUNE 12: The markets continued quiet during the week, prices remaining reasonably steady. Among CRUDE DRUGS, BUCHU leaves were firmer on the spot by sixpence per lb. Following lower quotations at origin, prices of Brazilian MENTHOL eased by one shilling per lb.

ESSENTIAL OIL prices were in many cases unchanged but ANISE was three-pence per lb. easier for shipment. Ceylon CITRONELLA moved up by three-pence per lb. on the spot, and there was some shading in some quotations for PEPPERMINT. Spices were reported "quiet."

Pharmaceutical Chemicals

ADRENALINE.—(Per gm.). Synthetic B.P., 1-kilo lots, 1s. 2d.; 500 gm. is 1s. 4d. ACID TARTRATE, B.P., 1 kilo, 10½d.; 500 gm. 1s.

BARIUM SULPHATE.—B.P., 50-kilo lots, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 9½d. as to package; 250-kilos from 3s. 3½d. to 3s. 5d.

BENZAMINE LACTATE.—In 500-gm. lots 1,023s. per kilo.

BENZOCAINE.—1-cwt. lots, 12s. 5d. per lb.

BROMIDES.—Crystals (per kilo):—

	Under 50 kilos	50 kilos	250 kilos
POTASSIUM*...	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
...	6 5	5 10½	5 8
SODIUM ...	6 5	5 10½	5 8
AMMONIUM ...	7 4	6 9½	6 6

* Powder is fourpence per kilo more.

BRUCINE.—(Per oz.) SULPHATE, 10s.; ALKALOID, 12s. 6d. for 100 oz. upwards.

CHLORAL HYDRATE.—1-cwt. 4s. 8d. per lb.

CHLORPHENESIN.—50-kilo lots are 72s. 6d. per kilo.

DIGOXIN.—100-gm. lots are 40s. per gm.

DITHRANOL.—B.P. 330s. per kilo, for 5-kilo lots.

GLYCEROPHOSPHATES.—Per kilo in 50 kilo lots; CALCIUM, B.P.C., 29s. 6d.; IRON 37s. 10d.; MAGNESIUM, 39s. 11d.; MANGANESE, 57s. 5d.; POTASSIUM, 50 per cent., B.P.C., 9s. 8d.; SODIUM, 50 per cent., B.P.C., 6s. 11d. and powder, B.P.C., 1949, 22s. 10d.; GLYCEROPHOSPHORIC ACID, 20 per cent., 12s.

HEXAMINE.—B.P.C. 1959, 50-kilo lots are 6s. per kilo.

HYPOPHOSPHITES.—Per kilo:—

Quantity	5 kilos	12.5 kilos	50 kilos
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
CALCIUM, B.P.C.	21 8	17 10	16 7
IRON, B.P.C. ...	39 3	38 0	36 9
MAGNESIUM ...	—	31 2	29 11
MANGANESE, B.P.C.	—	37 3	36 0
POTASSIUM, B.P.C.	27 1	24 9	23 6
SODIUM, B.P.C. ...	—	20 1	18 10

PARACETAMOL.—One-ton lots, 9s. 2½d. lb.; 5-cwt., 9s. 11½d.

PARAFFINS.—Prices to wholesale distributors per gall. delivered in drums.—Liquid HEAVY B.P., 8s. 11½d. for over 5-drum lots; 5 drums and under 9s. 0½d. LIGHT B.P., 7s. 4½d. and 7s. 5½d. for same quantities. Technical white: LIGHT, 6s. 9d. and 6s. 10d.; MEDIUM, 7s. 10d. and 7s. 11d. All subject to twopence per gall. surcharge. Drums charged and returnable. Soft: WHITE nominally £121-£131 ton and YELLOW, £87-£106. All in non-returnable drums delivered.

PHENACETIN.—B.P. 1-ton lots, 6s. 4d. per lb.; 1-cwt., 6s. 10d.

PHENAZONE.—1-cwt. lots, 9s. 6d. per lb.

SACCHARIN.—B.P. powder, 1 lb. and over, 15s. 6d. per lb.; SODIUM SALT, B.P., 14s.

SALICYLAMIDE.—5-cwt. lots, 6s. 0½d. lb.

STRYCHNINE.—100-oz. lots ALKALOID, 7s. per oz. SULPHATE and HYDROCHLORIDE, 6s.

SUCCINIC ACID.—One-ton £149 in drums.

THEOBROMINE.—ALKALOID from 25s. 11d. per kilo, c.i.f.

THEOPHYLLINE.—50-kilo lots and over: B.P., 34s. 9d. per kilo; HYDRATE, B.P., 34s. and AMINOPHYLLINE, 34s. per kilo.

Crude Drugs

ACONITE.—Spanish *napellus*, 4s. 3d. lb. (4s., c.i.f.).

AGAR.—Kobe No. 1, 19s. 6d. lb., c.i.f.; European, 22s. 6d., duty paid.

ALOES.—(Per cwt.). Cape primes, 260s., spot; 250s., c.i.f. nominal; Curacao, 525s.; 510s., c.i.f.

BALSAMS.—(per lb.). CANADA: 35s., c.i.f., 36s. spot; COPAIBA: B.P.C., 10s. 9d.; c.i.f.; 10s. 6d., spot; PERU: 12s. 8d., c.i.f.; 13s. 6d. spot; TOLU: B.P., 13s.-14s.; genuine as imported, 41s. 6d., c.i.f.

BELLADONNA.—LEAVES, 3s. 11d. lb., c.i.f. 4s. 3d. spot; HERB, 2s. 4d., c.i.f.; 2s. 6d. spot; ROOT, 1s. 9d., c.i.f.; 1s. 10d. spot.

BENZOIN.—Sumatra block B.P.C., spot £27 per cwt.

BUCHU.—LEAVES, Spot, 19s. 6d. lb.

CALUMBA.—Spot quoted, 130s. cwt.

CARDAMOMS.—Alleppey greens, 18s. lb., spot, 15s., c.i.f.; prime seed, 25s., c.i.f.

CASCARA.—Spot, 300s. cwt., 290s., c.i.f.

CASSIA.—*Ligene*, whole, 500s. cwt., duty paid, nominal; 420s., c.i.f.

CINNAMON.—Seychelles BARK, 285s. cwt.; 245s., c.i.f. Ceylon QUILLS (lb., c.i.f.), five 0's, 11s.; four 0's, 10s.; firsts, 6s. 9d.; quillings, 4s. 6½d.

CLOVES.—Zanzibar standard quality, 4s., spot; 3s. 9d., c.i.f.; Madagascar 3s. 2d., c.i.f.

COCILLANA.—Bark, 3s. lb., c.i.f. (spot, 3s. 3d.).

COLOCYNTH PULP.—Spot, 4s. 3d.-4s. 6d. lb.; shipment, 4s. 8d., c.i.f.

DANDELION.—Root, 350s. cwt. spot; 340s., c.i.f.

ERGOT.—Portuguese—Spanish, 8s. 3d. lb.; 7s. 9d., c.i.f.

GINGER.—(Per cwt.)—Nigerian split, 135s., spot; 130s., c.i.f. Jamaican No. 3, 340s.; Cochin, 295s., spot, 285s., c.i.f.

HONEY.—(per cwt., ex store). Australian light amber, 132s. 6d. to 135s.; and medium amber, 122s. 6d. to 125s. Argentine, 160s. to 165s.; Canadian, 190s. to 192s. 6d.; Mexican, 130s. to 132s. 6d.; Chinese, 120s. to 125s.

HYDRASTIS.—37s. lb. (36s. 6d., c.i.f.).

IPECACUANHA.—(Per lb.). Matto Grosso, 48s. and 47s., c.i.f. nominal; Costa Rican, 65s. and 61s. 6d., c.i.f.; Colombian, 47s. 6d. and 47s., c.i.f.

JALAP.—High-testing (15 per cent.), 6s. 9d. lb., c.i.f.; Brazilian, 2s. (2s. 1d., c.i.f.).

LOBELIA.—(lb.) Dutch, new crop, 4s. 3d., c.i.f. 4s. 3d., spot. American, 11s. 6d., c.i.f. and spot.

MACE.—Grenada No. 1, spot, 9s. 6d. lb.

MENTHOL.—(Per lb.). Chinese, 40s. in bond; no c.i.f. offers. Brazilian for shipment, 28s. c.i.f.; spot, 29s. 6d. in bond.

NUX VOMICA.—Shipment 110s. cwt., c.i.f.

PEPPER.—Sarawak white, 2s. 10½d., spot; 2s. 8½d., c.i.f. Brazilian black, grade 1, 2s. 9½d., duty paid; Malabar 330s. cwt., c.i.f.

PIMENTO.—Shipment, 700s. cwt., f.o.b.

QUILLAIA.—225s. cwt., spot; nominal.

SAFFRON.—Mancha superior, 1,000s per lb.; Rio, 975s., landed terms.

SARSAPARILLA.—Jamaican, nominal, c.i.f. (3s. 4d., spot).

SEEDS.—(Per cwt.)—ANISE.—China star 280s., duty paid. CELERY.—Indian. nominal spot, 250s.; shipment, 240s., c.i.f. CORIANDER.—Moroccan, 115s., duty paid; new crop, 65s., c.i.f.; Rumanian, whole, 120s.; splits, 110s., both duty paid. CUMIN.—Iranian, 175s., duty paid; 145s. c.i.f. DILL.—Indian, 142s. 6d.; 117s. 6d., c.i.f. FENNEL.—Indian, 180s.; 160s., c.i.f. FENUGREEK.—Moroccan, 95s., duty paid; new crop, 61s., c.i.f. MUSTARD.—English 75s. to 105s. as to quality.

TRAGACANTH.—No. 1, £280 cwt.; No. 2, £250 spot.

TURMERIC.—Madras spot, 200s. cwt.; forward, 180s. cwt., c.i.f.

VANILLIN.—(Per lb.), 5-cwt. lots, 21s. 6d.; 2-cwt., 21s. 9d.; 56-lb., 22s.; small quantities, 22s. 6d.

WITCH HAZEL LEAVES.—4s. 8d. lb., spot, 4s. 6d., c.i.f.

Essential and Expressed Oils

ALMOND.—Spanish, 5s. 3d. lb.

ANISE.—Chinese, 16s. 9d. lb.; shipment 15s. 6d. c.i.f., July-August.

CADE.—Spanish, 2s. 3d. lb., drum lots.

CAMPOR, WHITE.—Spot, 7s. lb., duty paid.

CARDAMOM.—Imported, 500s. per lb.; English distilled, 550s.

CITRONELLA.—Ceylon, 6s. 3d. per lb. spot, 5s. 10d. c.i.f.; Formosan, 5s. 10d., in bond; 6s. 6d., c.i.f.; Chinese, 4s. 8d., in bond; 4s. 9d., c.i.f.

CLOVE.—(lb.) Madagascar leaf for shipment, June, July, 10s. 6d., c.i.f.; spot, 12s. 9d., English-distilled bud, 35s. (1-cwt. lots).

DILL.—Dutch, 56s. lb., spot (55s., c.i.f.).

EUCALYPTUS.—Chinese, 80-85 per cent., 10s. 7½d. per kilo in bond; 10s. 6d., c.i.f.

GINGER.—Imported (per lb.); Indian, 165s., Chinese, 80s., Jamaican, 175s.

LEMON.—Sicilian, 47s. to 53s. lb. as to crop.

LIME.—West Indian distilled, 74-76s. per lb. on the spot.

NUTMEG.—East Indian, 48s. to 50s. lb.; West Indian, 80s.; English distilled, 110s.

PATCHOULI.—Spot, 27s. to 30s. per lb. duty paid; shipment, 25s. to 26s., c.i.f.

PENNYROYAL.—From 19s. lb., duty paid.

PEPPERMINT.—(Per lb.), *Arvenis*: Chinese, 11s. and 10s. 9d., c.i.f.; Brazilian, 10s. 3d. and 10s. 3d., c.i.f. American *Piperata*, 40s. to 47s. 6d.; Italian, 95s.

SANDALWOOD.—Mysore spot, 140s. lb., East Indian, 305s. per kilo, c.i.f.

UNITED STATES REPORT

NEW YORK, JUNE 11: Market conditions in Mexican SARSAPARILLA were described as quiet with prices holding within a range of 50 to 55 cents per lb. A five-cent-per-lb. reduction has been announced by producers of Brazilian MENTHOL. Prices now range from \$4.05 to \$4.10 per lb. Demand is reported to have eased from its recent high levels. Two more crops of Brazilian menthol are expected in the market within the next few months.

TRADE MARKS

APPLICATIONS ADVERTISED BEFORE REGISTRATION

"Trade Marks Journal," May 29, No. 4683
TECTO, 899,084, by Merck & Co., Inc.,
Rahway, New Jersey, U.S.A. For chemical
products used in agriculture and horticulture
(1)

ARMOMIST, 914,713, by Armour & Co.,
Chicago, Illinois, 60690, U.S.A. For fatty
acid derivatives for use in forming mist to
produce foam (1)

URAFOAM, 918,981, by Pfizer, Ltd., Sand-
wich, Kent. For chemical preparations and
substances for use in the manufacture of
foamed or foamable materials (1)

POLASCOPE, 919,758, by Polaroid Corpora-
tion, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A. For
chemical products; paper and films, all being
sensitised articles; all for use in photo-
graphy (1)

PREPUTEX, 920,151, by Wellcome Founda-
tion, Ltd., London, N.W.1. For chemical
substances for laboratory use in diagnostic
tests (1)

Device, 893,290, 893,292, by Flow Labora-
tories, Glasgow, C.2. For chemical reagents
(1) and for surgical tissue culture, media for
use in the culture of surgical tissue, prepara-
tions of blood for use in pharmacy, and
serum (5)

LANOSIL, 905,975, by Warner-Lambert Phar-
maceutical Co., Morris Plains, New Jersey,
U.S.A. For perfumes, non-medicated toilet
and cosmetic preparations for the hair;
shampoos and sachets for use in waving
the hair (3)

TAKE-FIVE, B911,782, by William Roy
Bishop, Wrotham, Kent. For soaps, per-
fumes, essential oils, cosmetics and hair
lotions (3)

DANCLAN, 919,421, by International Labora-
tories, Ltd., Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex.
For dentifrices and preparations for clean-
ing false teeth (3)

JUMP, 920,046, by Jane Seymour, Ltd., Lon-
don, W.1. For perfumes, toilet preparations
(not medicated), cosmetic preparations, denti-
frices, depilatory preparations, preparations
for dressing and setting the hair, soaps and
essential oils (3)

OVANUL, 906,409, by Ortho Pharmaceutical
Corporation, Raritan, New Jersey, U.S.A.
For hormone preparations for influencing
human and/or animal fertility (5)

ACTONATE, 907,122, by Takeda Yakuhin
Kogyo, K.K., Osaka, Japan. For Pharma-
ceutical preparations and substances for
human and veterinary use (5)

ACTIVAGE, 909,059, by Richardson-Merrell,
Inc., New York, U.S.A. For medicated pre-
parations for external use (5)

PRE-BRON, 907,198, by N.V. Koninklijke
Pharmaceutische Fabrieken V/H Brocades-
Stheeman & Pharmacia, Amsterdam, Hol-
land. For pharmaceutical and medicinal pre-
parations (5)

TRENPAK, 908,328, by Berk Pharmaceuticals,
Ltd., Godalming, Surrey. PARTOCON
I.N., 915,701, by Ferring, A.B., Malmö,
9, Sweden. KINTOSIN, 919,792, by Veb
Arzneimittelwerk Dresden, Radebeul, 1,
Germany. For pharmaceutical preparations
and substances (5)

JAUNTY, 911,488, by Allied Services, Ltd.,
London, E.C.1. For disinfectants and deo-
dorants (5)

ETIBI, 911,722, by Laboratorio Chimico
Farmaceutico Giorgio Zoja, S.p.A., Milan,
Italy. For antibacterial preparations and
substances (5)

ANGIOGRAFIN, B911,797, by Schering,
A.G., Berlin, 65, Germany. For x-ray con-
trast media (5)

WINMEDEX, 913,777, by Sterling-Winthrop
Group, Ltd., Surbiton, Surrey. For phar-
maceutical preparations and substances, all
for export (5)

KEY MARKETS (device), B913,308, by Key
Markets, Ltd., Ilford, Essex. For pharma-
ceutical preparations and substances and
deodorants (5)

RHINODEX, 915,741, by Abbott Laboratories,
North Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. For phar-

maceutical, veterinary and sanitary sub-
stances, all for use in the treatment of
nasal complaints (5)

BRONKOLIXIR, 919,374, by Winthrop Pro-
ducts, Inc., New York, U.S.A. For prepara-
tions for the treatment of asthma and
other respiratory diseases (5)

TRICORNOX, 916,321, by Boots Pure Drug
Co., Ltd., Nottingham. For chemical pre-
parations for killing weeds (5)

ABSORBEX, B916,920, by Southalls (Birm-
ingham), Ltd., Saltley, Birmingham. 8. For
incontinence pads and sanitary garments (5)

LONG PLAY, 917,239, by Procter & Gamble,
Ltd., Goshforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne. For
deodorants (5)

BROFEN, BRUFEN, 918,021-22, by Boots
Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Nottingham. For
pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary sub-
stances (5)

BLATTON, 918,158, by Farbenfabriken Bayer,
A.G., Leverkusen, Germany. For prepara-
tions for protecting and preserving plants;
insecticides, fungicides, weed-killing prepara-
tions, vermin destroying preparations; and
insect repelling preparations for human
and veterinary use (5)

VECTAL, 919,722, by Fisons Pest Control,
Ltd., Harston, Cambs. For preparations for
killing weeds and destroying vermin (5)

BURBOULINE, 918,353, by Burt Boulton &
Haywood, Ltd., London, W.C.2. For prepa-
rations for killing weeds and destroying
vermin; insecticides and fungicides (5)

AIREACTOR, B919,864, by Aireactor Corpora-
tion, New York, U.S.A. For deodorising
preparations (5)

METERVAC, 921,463, by Hoechst Pharma-
ceuticals, Ltd., Brentford, Middlesex. For
pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations
and substances (5)

ELK-ANA, 917,501, 917,503, by H. J. Sharples
(Wholesale), Ltd., Southport, Lancs. For
veterinary preparations and substances and
nutritive preparations (5) and for foodstuffs
for animals and fish, and food preparations
for use as nutritional additives to animal
foodstuffs (31)

TECH-PAK, 907,275, by Gillette Industries,
Ltd., Isleworth, Middlesex. For razors and
razor blades; bands with a cutting edge for
use with safety razors; and magazines
(containers) for use with or containing such
bands (8)

PYREX, 909,369, by James A. Jobling &
Co., Ltd., Millfield, Sunderland, Co. Dur-
ham. For scientific and laboratory glass-
ware (9)

ROTOLINE, B913,944, by Kodak, Ltd.,
London, W.C.2. For photographic, cine-
matographic and optical apparatus and in-
struments and parts and fittings (9)

Device, 905,757, by Lewis Woolf Griptight,
Ltd., Selly Oak, Birmingham, 29. For
napkins (textile) and disposable diapers
(textile), all for babies (25)

BETAFORCE, 912,325, by Cooper McDougall
& Robertson, Ltd., Berkhamsted, Herts. For
foodstuffs for animals and poultry (31)

PATENTS

COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS ACCEPTED From the "Official Journal (Patents),"

May 29

Basic derivatives of dibenzoxepine and pro-
cess for the preparation thereof. C. F.
Boehringer & Soehne, G.m.b.H. 1,119,329.

Method for solubilisation of so-called insoluble
collagen by proteolytic enzyme. Nihon
Hikaku, K.K. 1,119,342.

Method for the production of acid protease
of high ability to solubilise so-called in-
soluble collagen. Nihon Hikaku, K.K.
1,119,343.

Storage device for collapsible tubes, R. A.
Nockolds. 1,119,347.

Peptides having an adrenocorticotrophic hor-
mone action and process for their manu-
facture. CIBA, Ltd. 1,119,353.

Medicament for topical use having an anti-
fungal, bactericidal and bacteriostatic activity.
Expanscience, S.A. 1,119,355.

Isomerised hop extract. Stafford Allen &
Sons, Ltd. 1,119,414.

Process and device for the release of pesti-
cides. CIBA, Ltd. 1,119,493.

10-aminopropionyl-phenothiazines. Smith Kline
& French Laboratories. 1,119,503.

Phenothiazine derivatives. Smith Kline &
French Laboratories. 1,119,504.

Safety razor blades. H. C. Marks. 1,119,506.

Derivatives of glycyrrhetic acid. Biorex
Laboratories, Ltd. 1,119,507.

Antigen preparation and vaccine. Merck &
Co., Inc. 1,119,543.

Preparation of 1-alkyl-2-pyridinium-aldoxime-
salts. CIBA, Ltd. 1,119,549.

Insecticidal compositions. Armour & Co.
1,119,580.

Pharmaceutical compositions. C. F. Boeh-
ringer & Soehne, G.m.b.H. 1,119,616.

Imidazole derivative and intermediate therefor.
F. Hoffman-la-Roche & Co., A.G. 1,119,636.

Apparatus for obtaining cell cultures. Farben-
fabriken Bayer, A.G. 1,119,654.

British patent specifications relating to the
above will be obtainable (price 4s. 6d. each)
from the Patents Office, 25 Southampton
Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2,
from July 10, 1968.

NEW COMPANIES

P.C.=Private Company. R.O.=Registered Office.

BROCKMOOR PHARMACY, LTD. (P.C.).
—Capital £100. Directors: Peter R. Tilley,
M.P.S. and Frank Daniells, M.P.S. R.O.:
Queens College Chambers, 38a Paradise Street,
Birmingham. 1.

UNIGREG, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £25,000.
To deal in pharmaceutical chemicals, etc. Sub-
scribers: G. K. Simons and J. R. Cade, R.O.:
St. Alphage House, Fore Street, London,
E.C.2.

COMING EVENTS

Items for inclusion under this heading should
be sent in time to reach the Editor not later
than first post on Wednesday of the week of
insertion.

Wednesday, June 18

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY,
Medical centre, Boscombe, at 1.20 p.m.
Dr. I. Skottowe on "The Patient as a
Person."

MANCHESTER PHARMACEUTICAL GOLFING SOCIETY,
Bolton old golf club, Bolton. Medal com-
petition for Captain's prize.

Thursday, June 20

CARDIFF BRANCH, NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL
UNION, Park hotel, Cardiff, at 8 p.m.
Annual meeting.

HUDDERSFIELD BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL
SOCIETY, Lindley bowling club, Daisy Lea
Lane, Lindley at 7 p.m. Bowling evening
(men only).

LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE BRANCH, PHAR-
MACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Car treasure hunt de-
parting from Welford Road car park,
Leicester, at 7.30 p.m.

NORTH METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL
SOCIETY. Visit to William Ransom & Son,
Ltd., Hitchin, at 2 p.m. (numbers restricted).

PHARMACEUTICAL GROUP LUNCHEON CLUB,
ROYAL SOCIETY OF HEALTH, Quaglin's res-
taurant, Bury Street, London, S.W.1, at
12 noon. Professor L. J. Witts (Committee
on Safety of Drugs) on "Information on
Adverse Reactions to Drugs."

Advance Information

CHEMICAL SOCIETY. Symposium on "Microbial
Toxins" as part of joint annual meeting with
Royal Institute of Chemistry, Nottingham,
April 14-18, 1969.

NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY, Teddington,
Middlesex. Open days June 26 and 27. Appli-
cations, stating affiliations, should be sent
immediately to the director (a few invitations
are still available for academic and industrial
scientists).

PESTICIDES GROUP, SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL
INDUSTRY, School of Pharmacy, University of
London. One-day meeting on "Chemically
Induced Resistance of Plants to Pests and
Diseases." September 27.

Prescribers Press

What doctors are reading about developments in drugs and treatments

DRUG companies should be invited to publish details of proposed deletions from their lists of products in the medical Press before finally deciding to withdraw a preparation, suggests a doctor at Halifax General Hospital in a letter to the *B.M.J.* The writer proposes that a British Medical Association subcommittee might then, if the product seemed to be still of real value or not adequately replaceable, advise the company against its discontinuance. That procedure would, he argues, avoid the loss by default of valuable medicines. As an example he cites the continued marketing of Avertin by Bayer Products Co. following appeals from individual obstetricians, and after they had discovered an alternative source of supply of raw materials, which had been becoming difficult to obtain. (*B.M.J.*, June 8, p. 621).

SUPPORT for the warning given recently on the potential dangers of using depressant and antidepressant drugs in hyperthyroid patients (see *C. & D.*, May 4, p. 406) comes from workers at B.D.H. Research, Ltd., and Brighton School of Pharmacy. They confirm the earlier findings, and extend them, from their own observations in animals, to cover central stimulants, particularly amphetamine. Their suggestion is that an underlying influence on membrane permeability may account for the effects. Whatever the cause, however, they advise special caution in the choice of dosage in hyperthyroid patients (*B.M.J.*, June 8, p. 624).

THE recent suggestion by Dr. R. Goulding (see *C. & D.*, March 30, p. 298) that strip packaging would reduce the likelihood of toxic ingestion of drugs by children is criticised by the medical staff at an American Military hospital. After referring to a trial in which 83 per cent. of children tested

had been able to open strip packs, they point out that they themselves successfully tested the Palm-N-Turn child proof container. A child, they state, finds great difficulty, even after demonstration of the method of removing the cap by simultaneous movements of depressing and unscrewing. Price of the device is said to be comparable with that of a plastic snap-top container, and only two accidental child poisonings from medications dispensed in such containers have been recorded, though over 250,000 containers have been used since May, 1967. "This is a striking decrease from the previous year" (*Lancet*, June 8, p. 1252).

CONTEMPORARY THEMES

NEOMYCIN in orthopaedic surgical wounds. *J. Amer. med. Ass.*, May 20, p. 687.

2-HALOETHANEPHOSPHONIC ACIDS as ethylene releasing agents for the induction of flavouring in pineapples. *Nature*, June 8, p. 974.

EFFECT of an "atherogenic" diet containing starch or sucrose on the blood lipids of young men. *Nature*, June 8, p. 975.

CHEMOSTERILISATION of *Schistosoma mansoni*. *Nature*, June 8, p. 977.

TABLETS. Factors affecting the dissolution rate of medicaments from. *J. pharm. Sci.*, May, p. 798.

DRUGS AFFECTING SMOOTH MUSCLE. Preclinical evaluation of drugs affecting the gut. *Aust. J. pharm., Sci. Suppl.*, April, p. S25.

α -METHYLDOPA. Central hypotensive effect of. *J. Pharm. Pharmacol.*, June, p. 409.

CEPHALORIDINE. Polymorphism of. *J. Pharm. Pharmacol.*, June, p. 430.

A NEW ANTITUSSIVE, 4-phenyl-1-piperidine-carboxamide. Pharmacological studies of. *J. Pharm. Pharmacol.*, June, p. 456.

MILK OF MAGNESIA [Indian Pharmacopoeia]. Micromeritic and rheological study of. *Indian J. Pharm.*, March, p. 61.

MEPPYRAMINE MALEATE. Colorimetric determination of. *Indian J. Pharm.*, March, p. 67.

RIBOFLAVIN. A colorimetric method for the estimation of. *Indian J. Pharm.*, March, p. 70.

PROPRANOLOL. Ineffectiveness of, in hypertensive Jamaicans. *Brit. med. J.*, June 8, p. 601.

PRINT AND PUBLICITY

Fiona eye lashes. In *Honey, Nineteen, Petticoat, Weekend, Woman, Woman's Own* and *Thonison Weekly News*.

PUBLICATIONS

Booklets and Leaflets

BOWMANS CHEMICALS, LTD., Moss Bank, Widnes, "Available quantities of lactic acid and Transpar."

B.P. CHEMICALS (U.K.), LTD., Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London, W.1: Bisol Technigram on isopropyl acetate (no. 132). "Petroleum Chemicals" (44-p. educational booklet).

BRITISH CELANESE, LTD., Chemicals and plastics group, 345 Foleshill Road, Coventry, CV6 5AE.: 40-p. manual on Celanese colloids (technical information on the manufacture, physical properties and applications of Celacol methyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose and hydroxyethyl cellulose and Courlese sodium carboxymethylcellulose).

DERBYSHIRE STONE GROUP, 18 Great Marlborough Street, P.O. Box 2DG, London, W.1: "B.T.L. Analumatic clinical analysis system" (12-p. introductory brochure). The system is capable of analysing up to 300 samples per hour.

RONSON PRODUCTS, LTD., Randalls Road, Leatherhead, Surrey: Consumer leaflet on Ronson electrical appliances (tooth-brush, shavers, hair dryers, blender, carving knife and shoe cleaner).

PRESS ADVERTISING

R. BRANDT (MFG.), LTD., (distributors Thos. Christy & Co., Ltd., Aldershot, Hants):

COMMERCIAL TELEVISION

The information given in the table is of number of appearances and total screen time in seconds. Thus 7/105 means that the advertiser's announcement will, during the week covered, be screened seven times and for a total of 105 seconds.

Period—June 22-29

PRODUCT	London	Midland	North	Scotland	Wales & West	South	North-east	Anglia	Ulster	Westward	Border	Grampian	Eireann	Channel Is.
Andrews liver salts ...	3/45	3/45	3/45	3/45	3/90	4/60	3/45	3/45	3/45	3/90	3/45	3/45	5/75	3/45
Anne French ...	—	—	—	—	1/40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Askit powders ...	—	—	—	5/51	—	—	—	—	—	—	3/29	2/14	—	—
Bathjoys ...	2/60	2/60	—	—	—	1/30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bisodol ...	—	—	4/28	—	4/28	4/28	2/48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dettol ...	1/45	1/45	3/135	—	2/90	—	1/45	2/90	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disprin ...	1/15	—	—	—	1/15	1/15	—	2/30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Freezone ...	—	1/15	3/45	2/30	2/30	—	2/30	—	4/60	1/15	—	1/15	—	—
Immac ...	3/90	1/30	2/60	2/60	1/30	1/30	1/30	2/60	1/30	—	2/14	1/30	—	2/60
Polaroid cameras ...	3/90	2/60	1/30	—	—	1/30	—	3/90	—	—	—	—	1/30	3/90
sunglasses ...	1/30	3/90	1/30	1/30	1/30	1/30	—	1/30	1/30	—	—	—	1/30	1/30
Nair ...	1/15	1/30	2/45	2/45	2/45	1/30	1/30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rosedale hair sprays ...	—	—	—	—	1/15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Simply Super ...	5/150	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Steradent ...	—	3/90	—	—	—	—	1/30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trufood baby milk ...	—	2/60	2/60	—	—	2/60	2/60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wright's coal tar soap ...	3/45	2/30	2/30	2/30	2/30	2/30	2/30	2/30	—	2/30	2/30	2/30	—	—